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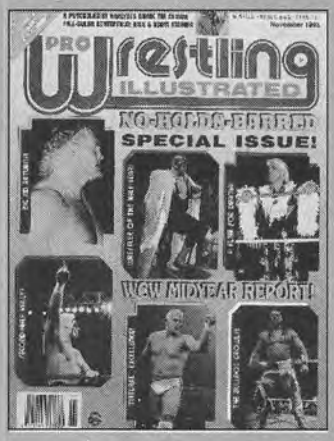
MIDYEAR REVIEWS



What a wild first six months of 1993 it was for WCW competitors. The WCW World, NWA, U.S., TV, and tag team titles all changed hands during that period, and plenty of other things happened. Our readers responded to the WCW midyear report we featured in the November 1993 issue.

"It wasn't fair at all to give Johnny B. Badd a 'C' because Maxx Payne attacked him," wrote Annette Williams of Atlanta. "He proved he was much better than that dirty Payne when he got him in the ring."

"With all the buzz about Jim Cornette suddenly taking the WWF by storm, I forgot that he was briefly in WCW early in the year," wrote Jake Gibsen of Tallahassee, Florida. "That's why these midyear reports are so great. It's so easy to forget what happened in wrestling only a few months earlier."

"My only complaint was too much coverage of Cactus Jack," wrote Neil Rader of Houston. "You're only encouraging his irrational, insane behavior. He deserved an 'F.'"

NOT SO MACHO

I never thought I would say this, but it's time for "Macho Man" Randy Savage to retire from the squared circle. Savage is one of the all-time greats in the WWF. However, since his divorce from Elizabeth, he has not been able to succeed in the vast majority of his bouts. The last three times I've seen Savage wrestle, he was dominated. He seems preoccupied during the matches.

Any wrestler who has trouble with the pitiful Giant Gonzales should consider retirement. That includes Randy Savage, who seems preoccupied during his matches, according to reader Dan Cella.

It's sad to watch a legend getting pummeled. I hope the "Macho Man" decides to save face and stick to broadcasting. He's had a great career, but all good things must come to an end.

DAN CELLA
Pittsburgh

SHAWN'S BETTER

Recently in "Between Falls" (October 1993), Mark Pagel wrote that he was overjoyed when Marty Jannetty won the Intercontinental title from Shawn Michaels. Pagel also told Lord Alfred Hays to "get real" when Hays said that Jannetty's triumph was "an upset." I think Jannetty's fans should open their eyes and read some known facts about the former Rockers.

First, it was Jannetty who was holding back The Rockers. I know this because when they broke up, it took only about nine months for Shawn to grab the I-C belt and hold it for a long time. But you say that Jannetty held the belt as well, right? I don't think you can consider 20 days much of a title reign. You also thought Shawn was an obnoxious jerk? How many wrestlers aren't? It doesn't take away from his tremendous ability and two outstanding title reigns.

MIKE EMOND
Kanata, Ontario

Any fans of former I-C champion Marty Jannetty should acknowledge the superiority of one-time tag teammate Shawn Michaels, says reader Mike Emond.

CROWN CORNETTE

I recently watched the *WWF Monday Night Raw* card at which Jim Cornette made a surprise appearance. No, I don't like Mr. Cornette (I remember him from his days in WCW), but his Heavenly Bodies are great. When I heard that Stan Lane was forced to leave, I thought the team was finished. But Cornette brings in Jim Del Ray, who is one of the best young prospects in the sport. This guy can do it all! On top of that, Cornette signs on with Yokozuna's camp. Bravo to Vince McMahon, who finally decided to recognize other wrestling promotions. And bravo to Cornette, who, by the end of the year, will be managing the WWF World champion and the WWF World tag team champions.

AARON CHATTERI
Vestal, NY

☎ NATIVE AMERICAN STARS

I was thrilled to see Charlie Norris tomahawk chop his way into WCW. With Chief Jay Strongbow retired and Wahoo McDaniel only appearing sporadically on cards around the country, the WWF's Tatanka was left to carry the torch for Native Americans. Norris has already defeated veteran star Bobby Eaton on several occasions. I believe he'll become a worthy contender to one of WCW's titles within a few months.

Tatanka's doing great against everyone he's taken on in the WWF, and I think he could knock off either Yokozuna or Shawn Michaels. It's good to see fine Native American athletes again getting the attention they deserve in wrestling.

KYLE BENTWOOD
Gainesville, GA

WCW's Charlie Norris (shown here tossing Bobby Eaton) is only one of several Native Americans rising to the top of their federations. "*PWI* Hotline" caller Kyle Bentwood is delighted to see Norris and new USWA champion Tatanka doing well.

DON'T BLAME VINCE

I just read a letter from a fan named Paul Margel, which you published recently. He complained about stereotyping of "midget" wrestlers. Although I agree with some of his comments, I feel I must say he is directing his anger toward the wrong person. Do not blame Vince McMahon; Mr. McMahon did not introduce "short-statured" wrestling to the world. That type of wrestling has been going on way before most of us reading this magazine were even born! I can remember such matches on cards in the 1950s.

In my 60-plus years on this earth, I have never heard any of those "midget" athletes complain. As a matter of fact, it does not bother me when someone refers to me as a "midget." To many of us, that is an accepted term. It beats the heck out of a lot of other names.

CORNELIUS JOBB
Zion, IL

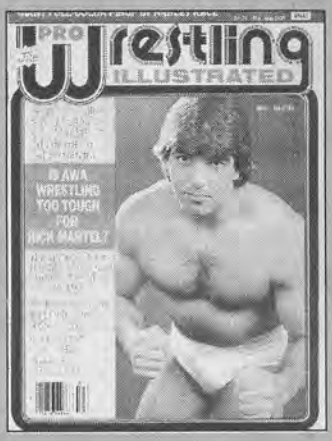
☎ MAKING THE RIGHT MOVE

Shane Douglas is a member of The Dangerous Alliance in ECW? I couldn't believe it when I heard the popular blond had turned into a rule-breaker. I think it's the smartest move he's ever made. When he was a WCW World tag team champion with Rick Steamboat, he never got the credit he deserved. Everybody thought Steamboat carried the team. I believe Shane could have been a great solo competitor in WCW, but he never got a fair chance to prove himself.

Who better than Paul E. Dangerously to get his solo career moving? This guy might be a shady character, but he'll

(Continued on page 52)

10 YEARS AGO IN PWI



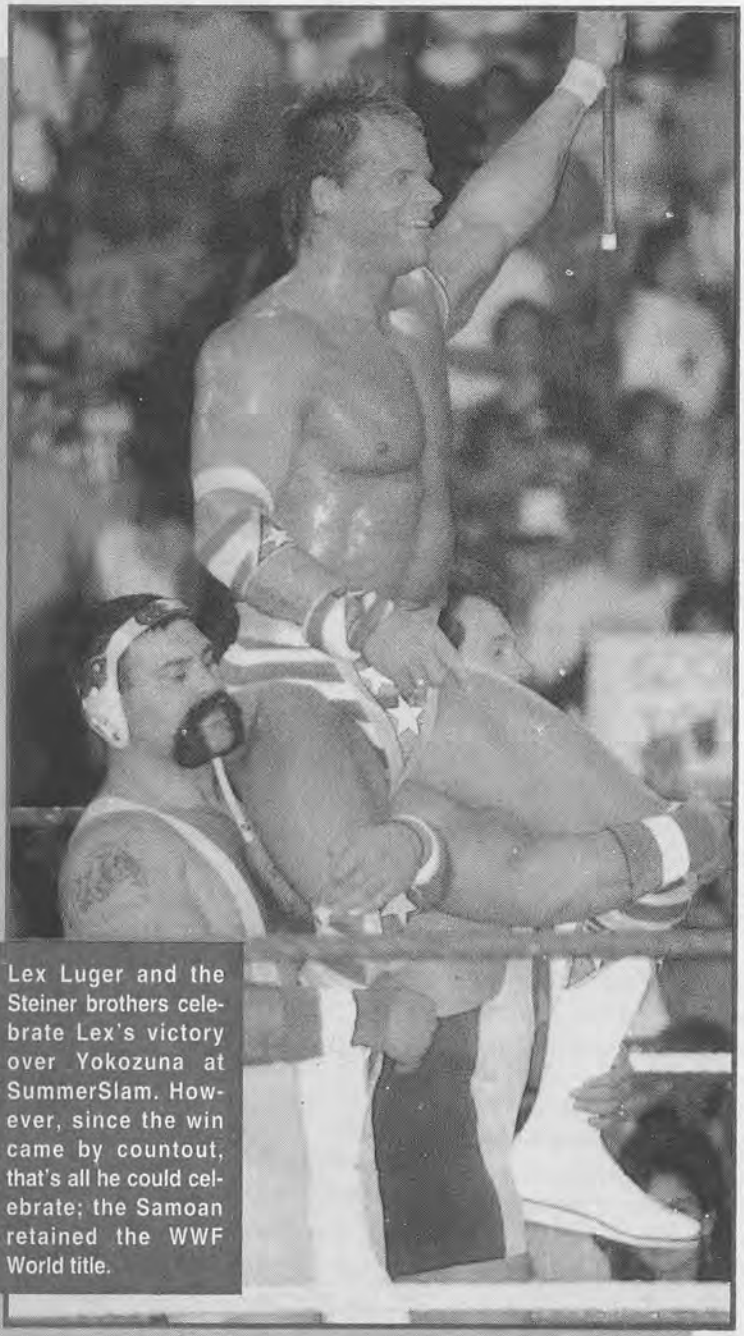
The cover of the January 1984 issue was graced by Rick Martel, who had recently lost his number-one contender status in the AWA. We posed the question, "Is AWA wrestling too tough for Rick Martel?" He said it wasn't, though he admitted to frustration over being thwarted by AWA champ Nick Bockwinkel and manager Bobby Heenan. Martel said he'd consider becoming more active in tag teams or even leaving the federation.

The centerfold featured NWA World champion Harley Race. He had just broken Lou Thesz' record by capturing his seventh NWA belt. Race defeated Ric Flair, whom he called his most hated opponent. While he said Flair was a competent wrestler, Race laughed at the suggestion the "Nature Boy" was the greatest there ever was.

Elsewhere in the magazine: Ivan Putski, Tito Santana, and Jimmy Snuka discussed their anger at not having received title shots at WWF World champ Bob Backlund; they claimed Backlund lied when he said he takes on all comers ... J.J. Dillon discussed his tainted win over Dusty Rhodes in a Texas bullrope match ... "Mad Dog" Buzz Sawyer told all about his bloody feuds with Tommy Rich and Roddy Piper in "Press Conference" ... Liz Hunter talked to David Von Erich about his spanking of Sunshine, Jim Garvin's valet.

RINGSIDE

With Bill Apter



Lex Luger and the Steiner brothers celebrate Lex's victory over Yokozuna at SummerSlam. However, since the win came by countout, that's all he could celebrate; the Samoan retained the WWF World title.

OVER THE SUMMER, **Lex Luger** became a household name to fans throughout America. Few outside of French Canada knew anything about **The Quebecers**.

Yet as of this writing, **Jacques** and **Pierre** are the WWF World tag team champions, while Luger has no belt. What's even more bizarre is that all won their title matches, though none did it conventionally. In fact, Lex did it twice. Confused? Let's explain:

On August 30, at SummerSlam at The Palace of Auburn Hills in Michigan, Luger took on World champion **Yokozuna**, the man he had bodyslammed on the U.S.S. Intrepid on Independence Day. The new, patriotic Luger had a tough time with the 500-plus pound Samoan, but then used the metal plate in his forearm to knock his rival out of the ring. Yokozuna was counted out and Luger celebrated with fellow fan favorites.

Yokozuna's manager, **Mr. Fuji**, and his American spokesman, **Jim Cornette**, could have protested Luger's move. They didn't, however, because their man was still the champ.

More of the same came the next night in Grand Rapids, Michigan. This time, Luger was battling Intercontinental champion **Shawn Michaels,** and once more he won by countout. In less than 24 hours, he had beaten two WWF champions—with nothing to show for it.

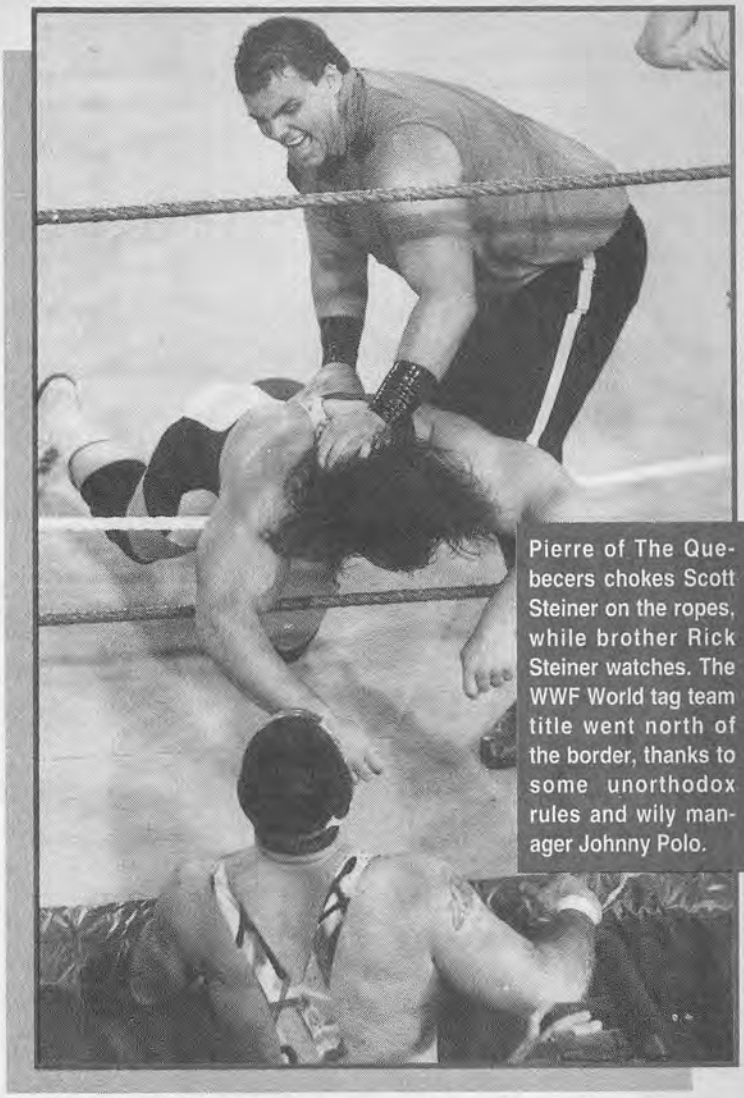
What makes the feat all the more remarkable is that Luger was beaten up by Finnish strongman **Ludwig Borga** in the locker room following SummerSlam. The devious Borga delights in putting down the U.S. (yet comes from a country that hasn't produced a world-class athlete since Olympic runner **Paavo Nurmi**!), and really roughed up the one-time "Narcissist." Luger was able to face Michaels, but the pain from the back injury was simply too severe. At press time, it was unclear how long he'd be out.

Ironically, Luger might be some sort of

champion today had he known about "Province Of Quebec" rules, which The Quebecers negotiated for their match on *WWF Monday Night Raw* vs. **Rick** and **Scott Steiner.** These supposed rules allow a title to be changed by disqualification or countout, and also prohibit piledrivers and top rope maneuvers. All of this played into the challengers' hands.

They also had a secret weapon—the nefarious **Johnny Polo.** The obnoxious manager, clad in a Montreal Canadiens' sweater, carried a hockey stick into the ring apron. (Golf season is over, eh?) When the referee wasn't looking, Polo gave the stick to Jacques, only to have it grabbed away from him by Scott. Guess who the referee saw with the stick? That's right.

The brothers earned a rematch when



Pierre of The Quebecers chokes Scott Steiner on the ropes, while brother Rick Steiner watches. The WWF World tag team title went north of the border, thanks to some unorthodox rules and wily manager Johnny Polo.

Scott beat Pierre in a solo bout. But you can be sure that, after learning of these Quebec rules, plenty of wrestlers will work on their French, *n'est-ce pas*?

The World title scene in WCW is far less complicated—it's **Big Van Vader**, and everyone else. Vader, amazingly agile for his 404 pounds, has dominated his competition since taking the belt from **Sting** last St. Patrick's Day. In fact, there's no clear-cut top contender. **Davey Boy Smith**? **Ric Flair**? **Cactus Jack**? The "Stinger"? How about ... **Sid Vicious**?

No kidding. Vader's tag team ally is making noises about leaving manager **Col. Robert Parker**, whom he's miffed at for lately concentrating on the career of **Steve Austin.** With fellow Hollywood Blond **Brian Pillman** sidelined for several months, Austin is going the solo route, and reportedly is

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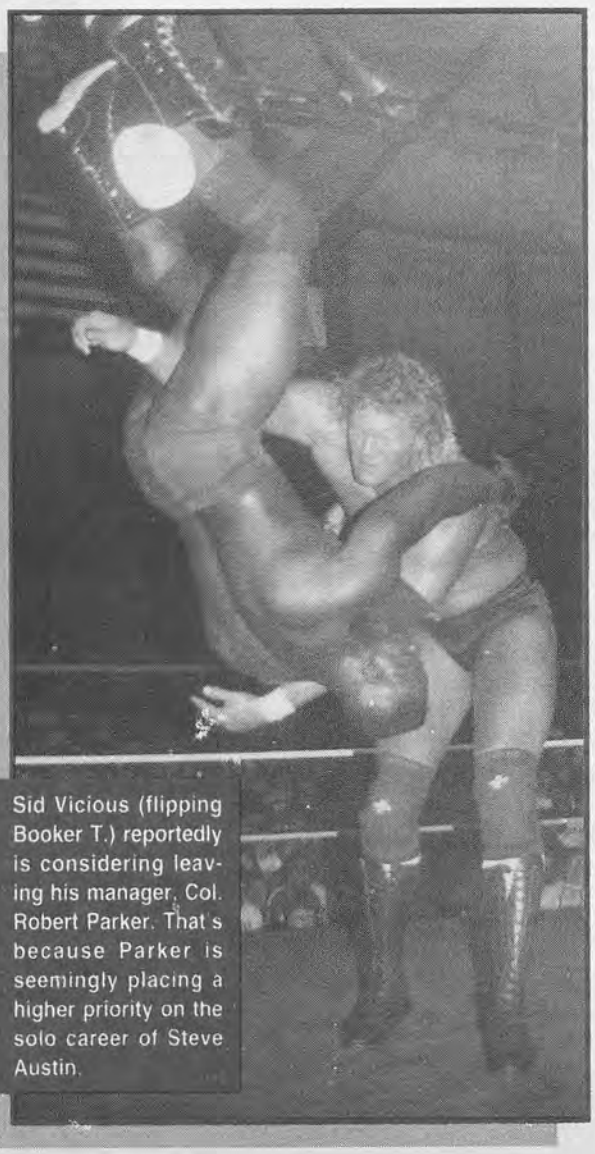

Sid Vicious (flipping Booker T.) reportedly is considering leaving his manager, Col. Robert Parker. That's because Parker is seemingly placing a higher priority on the solo career of Steve Austin.

from the desk of...

Stuart M. Saks

Who is the most powerful man in wrestling? Is it Yokozuna, the 550-pound WWF World champion who, with the help of manager Mr. Fuji, has sat on the federation for the last six months? Is it Big Van Vader, the WCW World champion who weighs in at over 400 pounds and leaves broken bodies in his wake?

Maybe you like your power in more subtle forms. In that case, it may be Vince McMahon, the head of the WWF who has cleverly turned televised wrestling into hourlong infomercials for pay-per-view events.

Or it could be Ted Turner, the media mogul whose ownership and handling of WCW has been not unlike a child with a new, unfamiliar toy.

All likely candidates, to be sure. But take a closer look at what has happened in the sport over the last month and you will agree with me when I say that Jim Cornette is quickly becoming the most powerful man in the sport.

Cornette, the bespectacled manager who speaks loudly and carries a big tennis racket, has been wrestling's most recent mover and shaker. He began 1993 as a manager of the tag team champions in a small federation. Before the New Year, his power and influence could extend to both the WWF and WCW.

"It's great to be on top, isn't it?" the garrulous Cornette exclaimed in a recent telephone interview, and I can't say that I disagree with him. As publisher of PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED, I am in a position in which my decisions directly affect the future fortunes of this magazine. I had no idea my

(Continued on page 54)

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in focus

By Craig Peters

WHEN IS THE NWA TITLE NOT THE NWA TITLE?

As if the title picture in WCW wasn't bad enough:

First you have the light heavyweight title, a championship that brought excitement and drama to WCW in 1992, continuing to remain vacant, despite WCW's promises to hold a tournament for the belt "early in 1993."

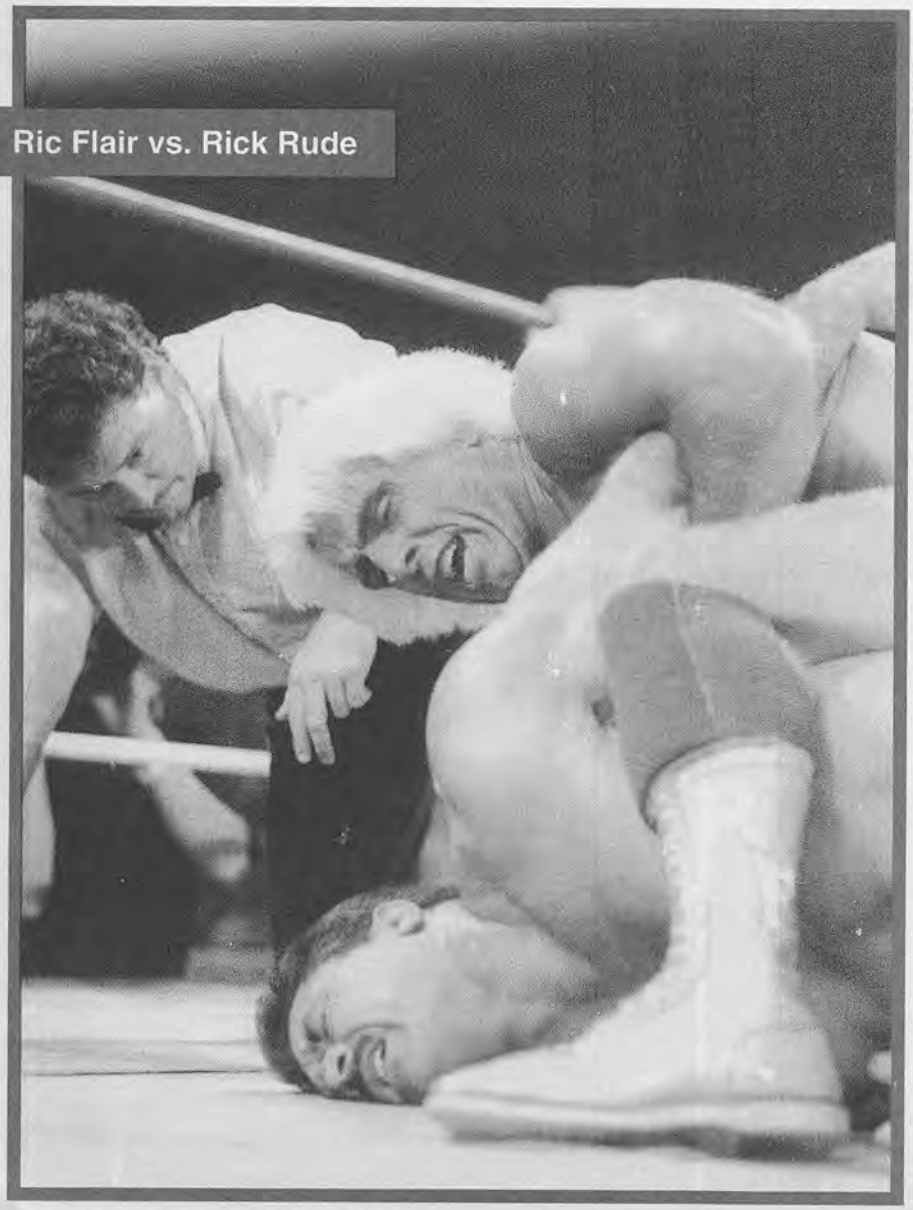
Then you have the U.S. heavyweight title, which remained vacant for much of the year, being grabbed by Dustin Rhodes as the result of direct interference by Ric Flair in his bout with Rick Rude.

Then you have the World tag team title, which changed hands from The Hollywood Blonds to Arn Anderson and Paul Roma (and subsequently to The Nasty Boys), even though Brian Pillman was unable to defend the title at the Clash. How WCW officials maintained that Steve Austin and Lord Steven Regal could uphold the belts in a title match remains beyond me.

Then you have the NWA title.

Or maybe you don't.

Okay, folks, this gets a little confusing, so bear with me.



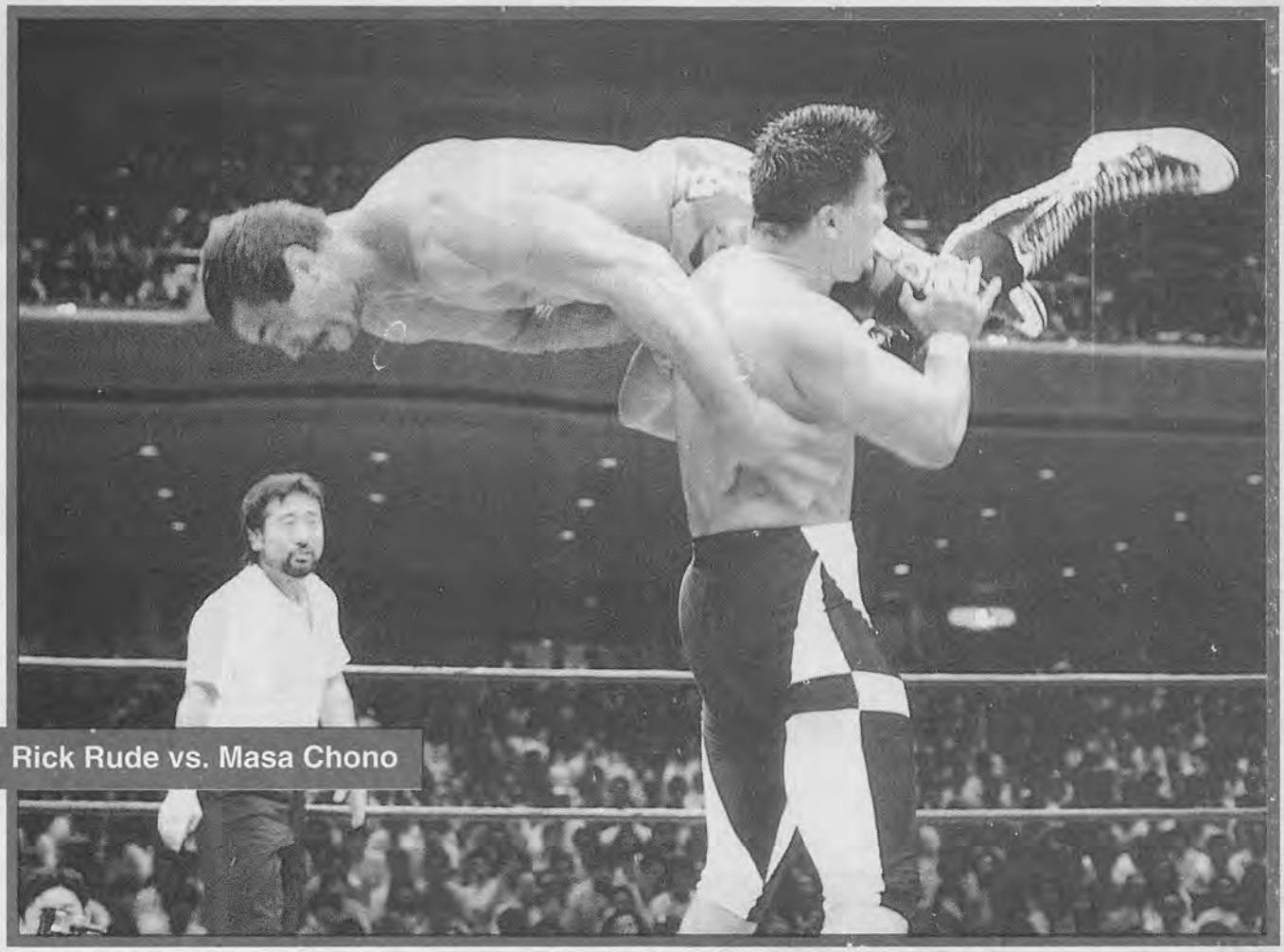
Ric Flair vs. Rick Rude

Back in 1991, Ric Flair held the WCW World title and was recognized as World champion by the NWA Board of Directors as well.

When Flair left WCW to go to the WWF on July 1, 1991, he was stripped of the WCW World belt, while still maintaining recognition by the NWA. Two months later, the NWA, after a legal squabble with Flair, also stripped the "Nature Boy." Most fans were unaware of the NWA's actions, as the organization was no longer being mentioned by the national media or during WCW telecasts. When Lex Luger defeated Barry Windham for the vacant WCW World title in a battle of the federation's top two contenders in Baltimore on July 14, 1991, it was more or less understood that this was a continuation of the NWA lineage.

The title picture was confused further when, on August 12, 1992, a tournament was held in Tokyo to determine a new NWA champion. Masa Chono won that tournament by defeating Rick Rude. The new NWA title lineage continued more or less in parallel with the WCW World title: The Great Muta defeated Masa Chono on January 4, 1993; Windham defeated Muta on February 21, 1993; Flair defeated Windham on July 18, 1993; and Rude defeated Flair at Fall Brawl on September 19, 1993.

But attentive listeners to the Fall Brawl pay-per-view broadcast will



Rick Rude vs. Masa Chono

notice that Jesse Ventura and Tony Schiavone never uttered the words "National Wrestling Alliance" or "NWA" during the show.

Why?

"As of September 1, WCW elected not to renew its membership with the NWA," explained Mike Weber, director of comunications for WCW. "Therefore, we have no right to use the NWA name or promote a title match as an NWA title match. Yet clearly, the Flair-Rude match was a championship-caliber match, and even before and after September 1, the belt itself—and the excellence it signifies—remains a part of WCW. So WCW elected to rename the title simply the world heavyweight title, and Rude currently holds that championship."

But what does the NWA have to say about the whole situation? I contacted Bob Trobich, general legal council for the NWA, for an answer to that question.

"It is true that, as of September 1, WCW withdrew their membership," Trobich explained. "It's also true that after that time that at least in some of their television [the Fall Brawl match between Rude and Flair] had continued to be advertised as an NWA championship match. The fact is, we attempted to go to court to block this match from becoming any type of title match at all. In the NWA's opinion, the public had the overwhelming conception that this was an NWA match for the NWA title. It was not. Flat out, it was not for the NWA World heavyweight championship.

So who is the NWA champion?

"I don't have an answer to that question," Trobich said. "I have a board of directors not only in this country but overseas as well, and I simply have not been able to get the body together to decide championship recognition at this point."

ECW President Tod Gordon, a member of the NWA Board of Directors, was able to lend some insight into the championship situation, however.

"The NWA championship will be decided in a tournament that will air throughout the U.S. and Japan," Gordon said, adding that "the NWA champion will legitimately be the only true world heavyweight champion, in that he will defend his belt in all NWA areas, including New Zealand, Japan, the United States, Mexico, Puerto Rico—all over the world."

The tournament is being targeted to take place close to the first of the year.

Oh, by the way: Big Van Vader is no longer allowed to be called Big Van Vader anymore by WCW; he's being called only "Vader" as we go to press, due to a legal dispute between WCW and the New Japan organization, which claims ownership of the "Big Van Vader" name. But that's another column for another time. □

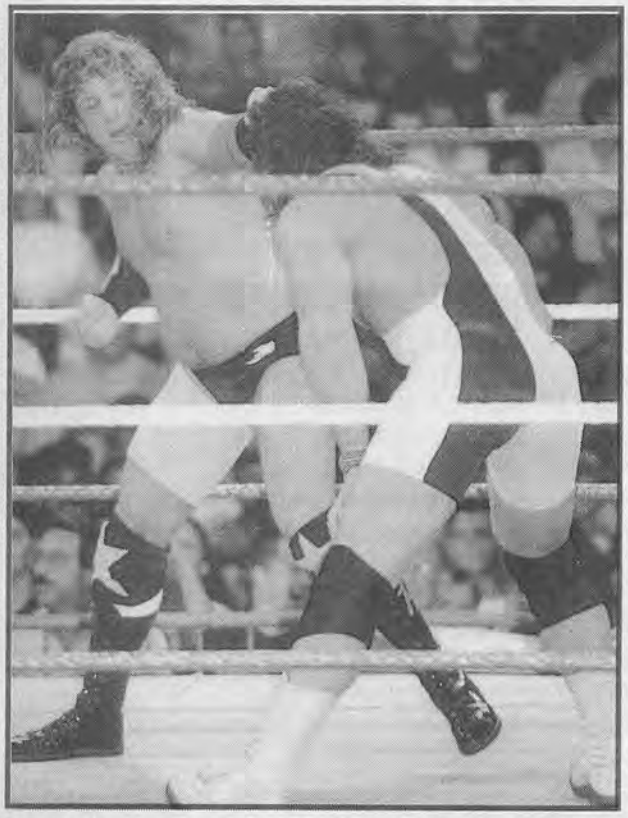
win lose or draw

BY ANDY RODRIGUEZ

SIX MONTHS OUT of the *PWI* main office and it's as appropriate a time as any to take an overview of the sport. There's plenty of excitement, action, and adventure. Here's some evidence:

The Heavenly Bodies vs. The Steiners match at SummerSlam. Tom Prichard and Jim Del Ray did not win the World tag team belts, but they did prove they are a worthy addition to the WWF roster. Put aside Jim Cornette's overblown rhetoric and you have one excellent tag team.

Lex Luger's transformation. Perhaps he's not 100 percent sincere as an American patriot, but the man formerly known as the "Total Package" and the "Narcissist" has a new purpose in his career and it definitely comes through in the quality of his wrestling. WWF World champion Lex Luger? Finally, it sounds right.



Tom Prichard gets ready to punch Scott Steiner during The Heavenly Bodies' SummerSlam match against the Steiner brothers. While the Smoky Mountain stars couldn't unseat Rick and Scott, they proved they were for real.

Jerry Lawler in the WWF vs. Jerry Lawler in the USWA. In New York, "The King" is a bum; in Memphis, he's a hero. It truly is fascinating to watch how fans in the different areas react toward him. And has any commentator ever used the Telestrator better?

Giant Gonzales. A fan favorite in WCW as El Gigante, he arrived in the WWF as a 7'7" (eight feet? We think not, Vince) maniac with nothing but bad intentions. Now it seems as though he wants the fans on his side again. Heck, I might root for him, if he stopped wearing that silly costume.

Rick Rude vs. Ric Flair. We all thought that to Rude there was nothing more important than the U.S. title. It turned out Flair's NWA belt was much more important. This may also turn into a war for the affections of Fifi. Unless she loses her green card.

Sid Vicious. Sid wasn't too interested in justice, was he? Back in WCW, the mountain of a man is twice as vicious. Imagine if he and Big Van Vader were serious about forming a permanent tag team. They'd lock up the World tag belts for at least a year.

The Kid. With a victory over Razor Ramon and a strong showing against Irwin R. Schyster, Kid proved that the so-called "smaller" wrestlers can compete with the big guys. Of course, it helps to possess amazing aerial ability. Maybe Kid will be the impetus for a light heavyweight division in the WWF.

Boxing announcer Michael Buffer's involvement in wrestling. The man who gets us "ready to rumble" has added pizzazz to

(Continued on page 56)

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the steel cage

By Chris Bernucca

A GIANT disappointment. When former NBA center Artis Gilmore, who stood 86 inches tall, was asked if he played basketball for a living, he slyly responded, "No, I wash giraffe ears."

Don't laugh. This could be Giant Gonzales' next job.

Gonzales, who stands 7'7" and weighs 435 pounds, is the biggest bust ever to occupy the squared circle. He lost to The Undertaker at SummerSlam '93. Before being pinned, he was the victim of six consecutive clotheslines, the final one coming from the top rope. Despite his incredible size and strength, Gonzales had no answer for Undertaker's basic attack. He was simply target practice for a foe who was coming off an injury and less than 100 percent.

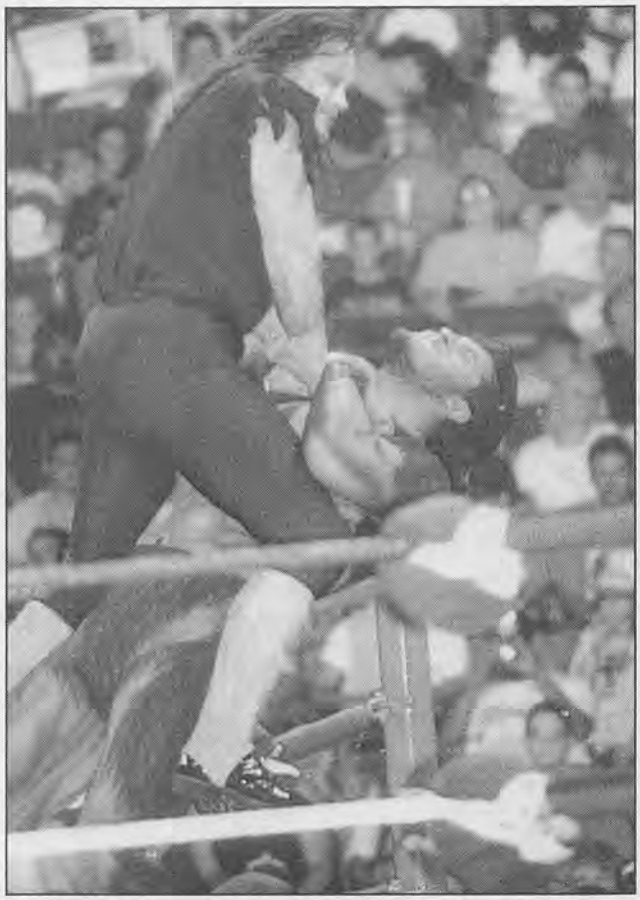
Most WWF wrestlers will tell you there's no shame in losing to Undertaker. That may be true, but most WWF wrestlers aren't 11 inches taller and 115 pounds heavier than Undertaker. There is no excuse for Gonzales losing to Undertaker, or any opponent, for that matter. That didn't stop Gonzales from trying to find an excuse. Following the match, he choke-slammed manager Harvey Wippleman, signifying the end of their relationship.

Although my colleague Eddie Ellner has wasted much of his column space belittling the late Andre the Giant, it remains that Andre was one of the best wrestlers ever. He won nearly every match he competed in, including a victory over Hulk Hogan for the WWF World title in 1988. (That was when he immediately sold the title to Ted DiBiase, a deal later voided.) He also treated his opponents like rag dolls, and that's what seven-foot, 400-pound men are supposed to do.

Even Shohei "Giant" Baba, whose age and diminishing physical presence have demoted him to comic relief status on Japanese cards, was a champion in his heyday, defeating Jack Brisco and Harley Race for the NWA title on three occasions from 1974 to 1980.

Gonzales, however, has been nothing but a giant disappointment since making his professional debut as El Gigante for WCW in 1990. After several victories over preliminary wrestlers in Ted Turner's federation, he was given a series of title shots against World champion Ric Flair. He stood 18 inches taller than Flair and outweighed him by nearly 200 pounds, but that didn't stop him from being thoroughly embarrassed by the "Nature Boy."

After a one-year hiatus, the giant reemerged in the WWF with a new name and new, unintentionally hilarious outfit. Gonzales wore a full-length brown leotard gussied up with muscle contours and swatches of brown fur. Combine his ring wear with a full beard and an occasional primal roar, and channel



The Undertaker has Giant Gonzales by the throat during SummerSlam, as have many other opponents during his disappointing WWF tenure. The only thing Gonzales has in common with the late Andre the Giant is size.

surfers may have thought they had stumbled onto a documentary about the legendary sasquatch.

Gonzales claimed to have taken part in a private training regimen during his hiatus. If he did, he should demand an immediate refund. He's still awkward and slow, with no scientific skills whatsoever. Although he possesses the strength and height to deliver the most effective press-slam ever seen, he constantly resorts to chokeholds, which generally are illegal.

Gonzales' giant disappointments transcend the wrestling ring. He originally came to America from Argentina, where he played center for the national basketball team. He was selected in the third round of the 1988 draft by the Atlanta Hawks but never played a game for them, unable to win a roster spot on a club that sported overpaid Jon Koncak as its backup pivotman. That's when Turner, who owns both the Hawks and WCW, offered him the opportunity to become a wrestler. The world is still waiting for Gonzales to take up the offer.

Having failed as both a basketball player and wrestler, what is next for Gonzales? Well, he could wash giraffe ears. He could go back to Turner and ask him for a maintenance job in the CNN Center, replacing light bulbs in the atrium. He could stay on with the WWF, holding the boom microphones during interview segments. (A tip if he does that: Keep the microphone as far away as possible from Joe Fowler.)

But I think I've got the best offer for him. My apartment is in dire need of a fresh coat of paint, and I need someone who can reach the ceiling.

***

As if there wasn't enough sports on television already, October 1 brought us the debut of ESPN2, a sister station of ESPN. Judging from a preview aired on September 11, ESPN2 is promising a more high-tech, slicker look than the more conventional sports programming seen on ESPN. In many ways, it resembled *MTV Sports,* except the on-air personalities knew what they were talking about. The studio set had obscured lighting, and the hosts and guests were not required to wear suits and ties. Video clips seem to be geared toward the teenage viewer's Lilliputian attention span, with jaunty camera angles, negative shots, and quick edits.

With its bold new venture, ESPN2 now has to fill 168 hours of air time every week. Some of it will be filled by live sporting events and studio shows, occupying just a fraction of its weekly programming. What I do not want to see is endless repeat broadcasts of the IndyCar Pioneer Electronics 200 or some limousine liberal bungee-jumping off a bridge and saying, "Radical, dude."

What I do want to see is wrestling, preferably from Japan. If ESPN2 is going to be a sports network geared toward teenagers, it might as well start with programming we know teenagers watch.

ESPN had a bad experience with wrestling when it signed a deal with the pathetic Global Wrestling Federation. The ratings were awful, a direct reflection on the participants and the production. The network would make a big mistake to assume this is the only quality of wrestling available.

Japanese wrestling is far more exciting than anything this country has to offer. Its cards are fast-paced and do not require translation or interpretation.

Based on the curiosity factor alone, ESPN2 would see a marked rise in its televised wrestling ratings were it to acquire the broadcast rights to a Japanese federation. I implore ESPN2 to televise Japanese wrestling, and give fans something they've been missing for years—excitement. □

The 7'7" Gonzales was equally underachieving while known as El Gigante in WCW, as in this 1991 match against Ric Flair. However, at least the former Argentine basketball player wasn't forced to wear a laughable bodysuit like he did in the WWF.

off the top rope

by Eddie Ellner

If you wish to contribute to Ellner's mailbag, send your letters to:

TOP ROPE
Box 956
Ft. Washington, PA 19034

Sure, Jim Cornette has deserved condemnation over the past eight years. But while he's made mistakes, his skills can't be underestimated. For example, his recent rise to the Smoky Mountain Wrestling commissionership was magnificent.

(Editor's note: The opinions expressed in this column are those of the letter writers and Eddie Ellner himself. They do not necessarily reflect the editorial views of this magazine.)

IS THE WORLD necessarily upside down just because the world's top-rated tag team, Rick and Scott Steiner, lose their title to an unrated opponent, the, uh—what was that name again?—The Quebecers? Not in the least. We all know ratings are biased and ignorant evaluations composed by biased and ignorant people. But ... The Quebecers? And that's not the only screwy thing that's happened lately. That whole Israeli-PLO thing is a little weird. The Texas Rangers played significant games after Labor Day. And I understand they're going to permit Bill Apter to use the executive washroom. Now I'll have to use the tree again. As usual, the only real thing you can count on is the U.S. Mail—to deliver the dumbest letters ever written straight to my desk.

Dear Eddie,

Were you born stupid or simply took a lot of classes to get that way? I found an old magazine where you criticized Jim Cornette for being a mama's boy and a terrible manager. I heard you on a radio call-in show recently describe Cornette as the greatest thing since sliced bread. Do you get paid by the amount of dumb wishy-washy opinions you have?

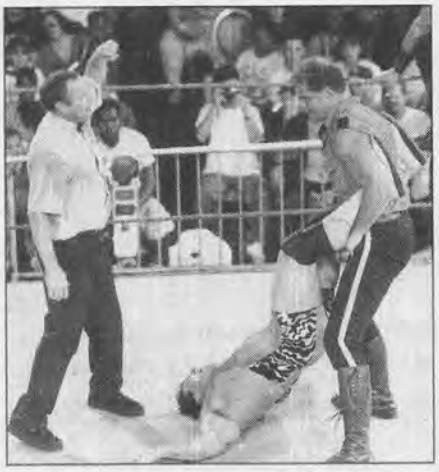
ANNE VELARDI
Brooklyn, NY

Dear Anne,

I feel like I know you, though it might be from that summer I spent working in the school for challenged youthful offenders from splintered families with abuse problems. Since you don't specify where and when I criticized Jim Cornette, I'm forced to defend my honor in a general way.

It's entirely possible I condemned Cornette for a specific act over the past eight years. There is much wrong with the man. He's spoiled, pampered, whiny, often underestimates opponents, and has mismanaged at least three of his men out of world titles they richly deserved. Pick up a mirror and you'll see no one's perfect.

What Cornette has recently done by conniving his way to the Smoky Mountain Wrestling commissionership is nothing short of brilliant. The world is not a place of fixed opinion, and knowing this can only help you as you try to overcome the many obstacles in your life.



Curiouser and curiouser. How did Rick and Scott Steiner, arguably overrated yet certainly one of the world's premier tag teams, lose their WWF title to the unheralded Quebecers? It's absurd—but many weird things have happened of late.

Dear Eddie,

What do you think of Jerry Lawler's challenge to WWF leader Vince McMahon? Is it the desperate move to infuse life into a dying career? Or is Lawler really that stupid?

RONNIE SIMMS
Elgin, OR

(Continued on page 18)

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(Continued from page 16)

Dear Ronnie,

Let's work in reverse. Jerry Lawler's stupidity has no boundaries; if he's dumb enough to wrestle a stand-up comedian, he's certainly dumb enough to attack Vince McMahon. But the real issue here is so much more deliciously perverse. It's *McMahon* who's the very willing antagonist here.

Vince McMahon (left) runs one of the world's largest sports organizations. Jerry Lawler stars in a regional federation, and is despised nearly everywhere else. Could it be that McMahon, a frustrated athlete, is jealous of Lawler?

This is not like, say, Don Mattingly storming the New York Yankees' office and challenging owner George Steinbrenner to a fistfight. McMahon not only craves the spotlight that comes from running one of the world's largest sporting operations. He wants in. He wants to sweat with the big boys.

That's why he wasted a couple of million dollars on Lex Luger and that godforsaken World Bodybuilding Federation. He is as frustrated as a frustrated athlete can get. The beauty is as he grows older, the more he indulges his fantasy, and the more serious injury he can obtain.

Dear Eddie,

What's with Sid Vicious? Is he becoming the Lex Luger of his generation?

BILLY DRAKE
Chicago

Dear Billy,

The first time I saw Lex Luger, I remember telling a friend how pro wrestling had turned another corner. Here was the man, not Hulk Hogan, who would carry the sport into the 21st century. We expected phenomenal things from Luger, and when he provided merely great moments, we were disappointed. Luger's downfall in large part can be traced back to horrible mismanagement that he is only now correcting. Ditto for Sid Vicious, except for the management part.

By the time you read this, I expect Vicious and Big Van Vader to be involved in a horrible feud—horrible because Sid will be perceived as the good guy, and he hasn't responded well to cheers in the past. Nevertheless, he's the only guy in the world right now with half a chance against Vader, and that's giving him every benefit of the doubt. Luger used to choke in big matches, but he's a model of consistency compared to Vicious.

Of course, when you're 6'8", weigh 320 pounds, and move like a panther, you're given the benefit of the doubt.

Dear Eddie,

What's going on with you, man? Where is your value system these days? How come you still have it in for The Rock 'n' Roll Express? Can't you admire a team that endured all these years? It's hard to make it in the ring. Give credit where it's due. They may not be the best, but somehow they've remained competitive all these years. You're not scared of the truth. Why not admit this one?

BEV UNDERWOOD
Mobile, AL

Dear Bev,

I want to make this as clear as I can, so would you be so kind as to bend a little closer to the page—c'mon, a little closer. That's it, stay right there and put your ear to the page so I can say once and for all that ...

Cockroaches endure nuclear fallout, but no one's singing their praises, which is a shame. Because cockroaches are darned noble creatures compared to Robert Gibson and Rick Morton, both of whom should be arrested and charged with impersonating professional wrestlers all these years.

Did you get all that, Bev? □

Why don't the readers understand? Robert Gibson and Rick Morton, The Rock 'n' Roll Express, are overrated pseudo-wrestlers. They're not fit for any mat reporter of substance to write about.

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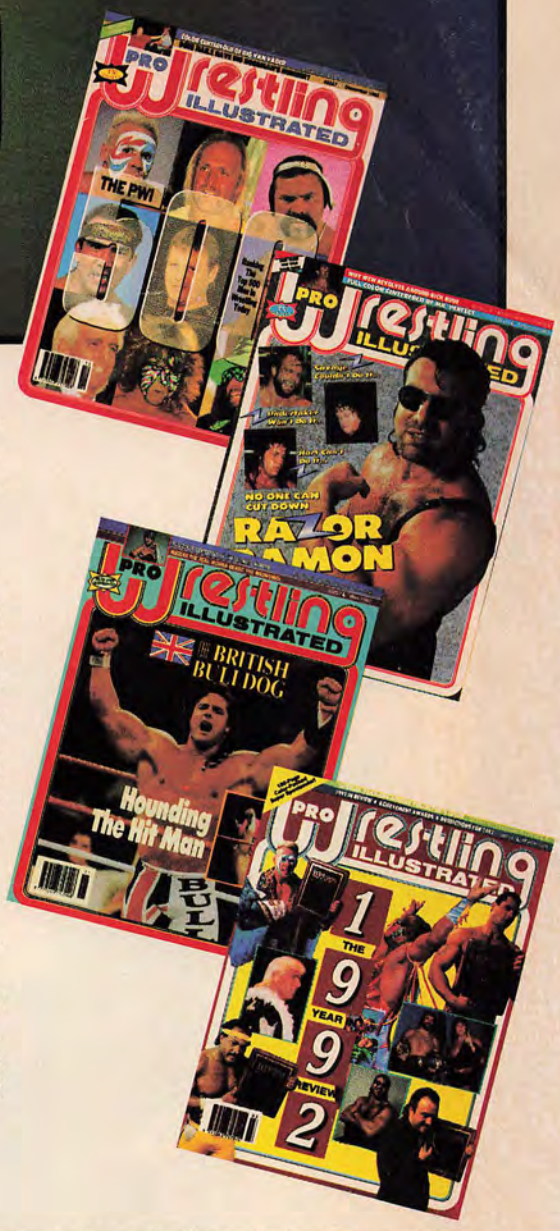

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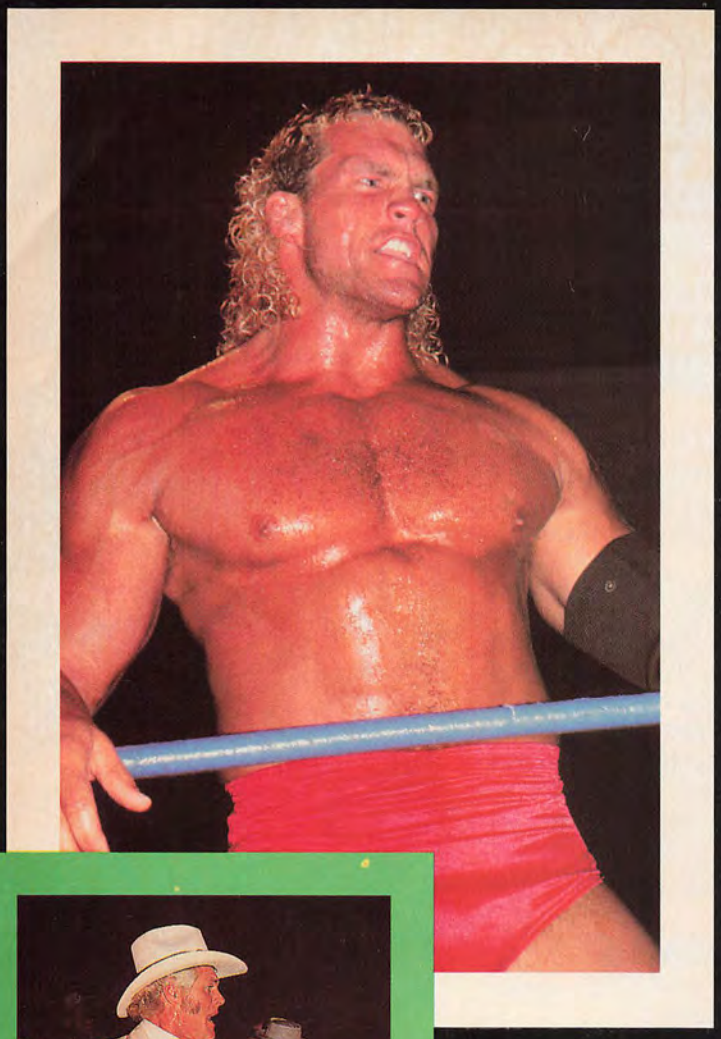
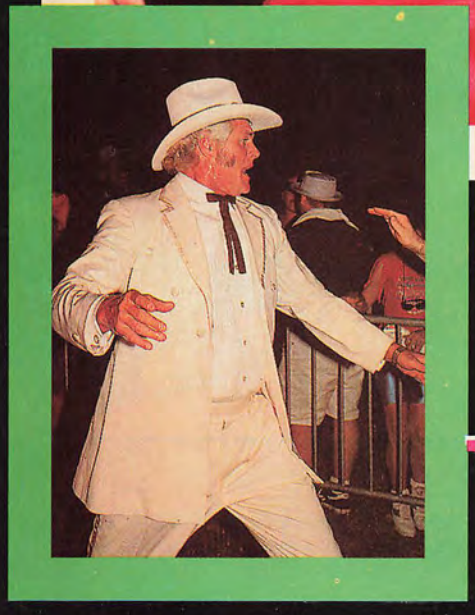


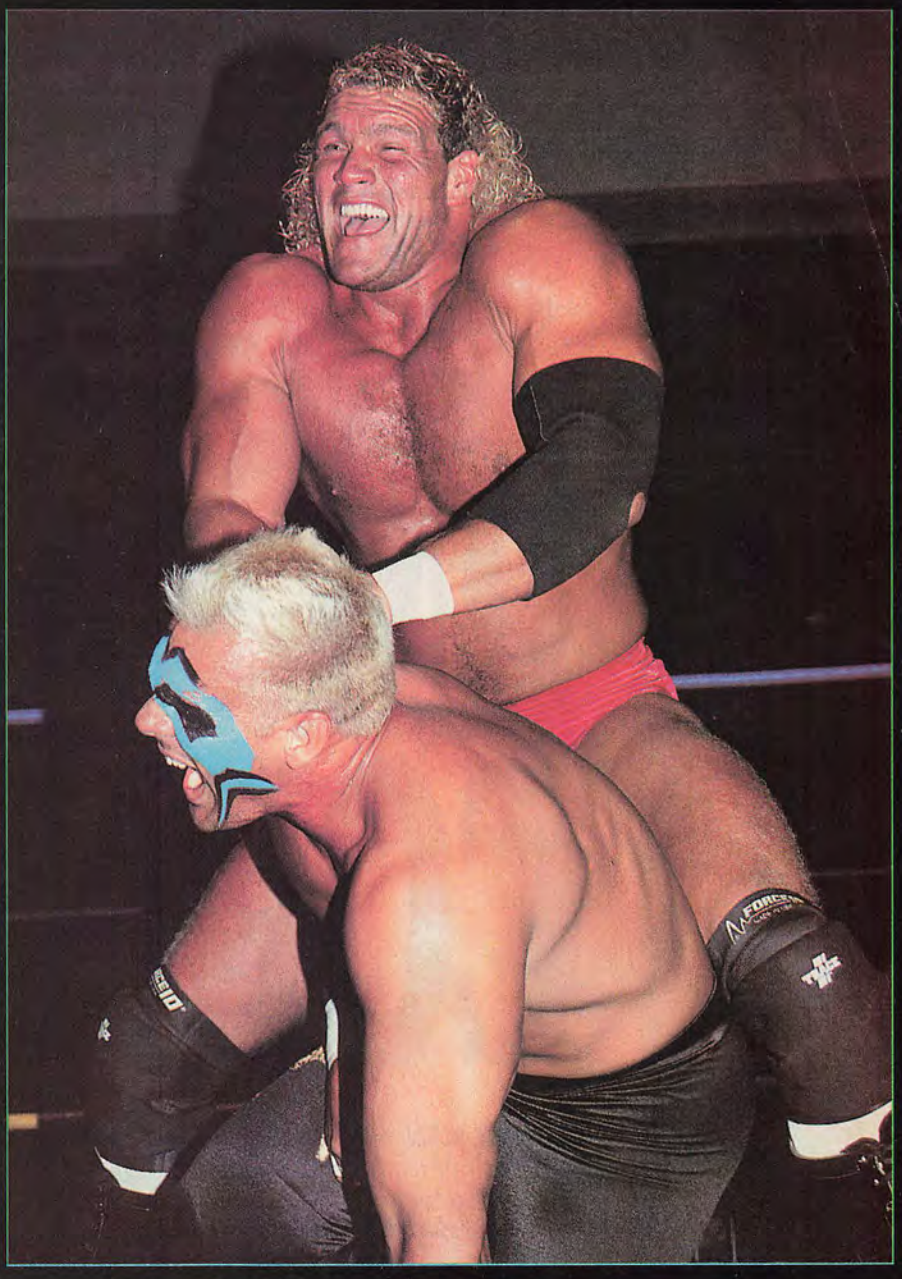


Sid Vicious (top) has had a falling out with Col. Robert Parker (above) over the manager's seemingly greater interest in Steve Austin. Could this breakup eventually lead to Vicious ... turning fan favorite?

After Falling Out With Col. Parker

IS SID READY TO SEEK JUSTICE AGAIN?

Due to his manager's actions, Sid Vicious finds himself alone—again. But some friends down the hall may give him a chance to finally succeed on his own



Vicious and Sting have been heated rivals in recent months. That all could change if Vicious reverts to the fan favorite ways he showed as Sid Justice in the WWF.

By Chris Bernucca

FORGIVE SID VICIOUS when he says he's seen this all before. He is not imagining things, nor is he experiencing a severe case of *deja vu.*

Vicious is exactly where he was two years ago in the WWF, and just a bodyslam from where he was three years ago during his first stint in WCW—betrayed by a manager and left alone to fend for himself.

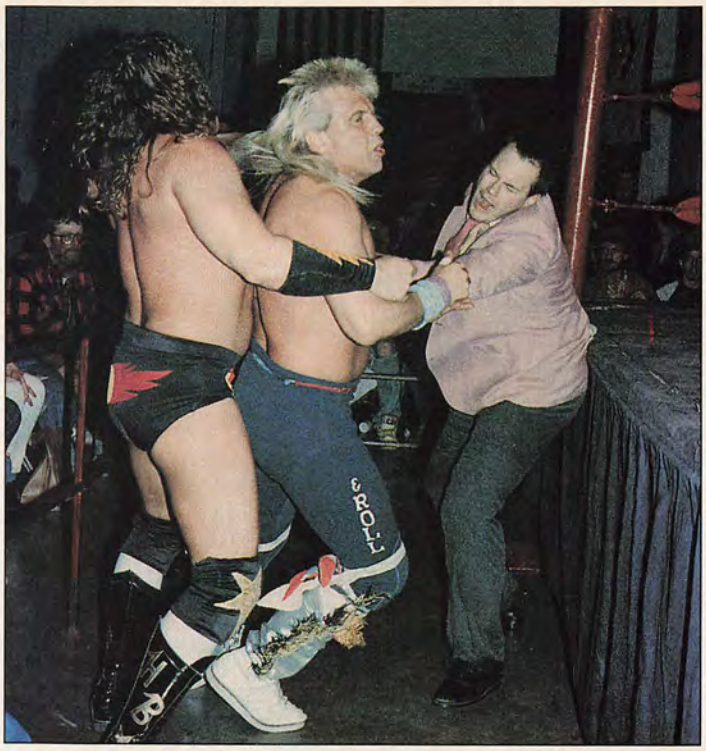
The names may change. Mark Callous becomes Hulk Hogan becomes Big Van Vader. Teddy Long becomes Harvey Wippleman becomes Col. Robert Parker. Even Sid Vicious becomes Sid Justice becomes Sid Vicious. But the scenario stays the same, like a rerun of a bad made-for-TV movie.

In the latest showing, Vicious and Parker are parting ways. The sly colonel has turned away from his most prized possession, focusing instead on Steve Austin. With Austin's partner, Brian Pillman, sidelined by injury, Parker has attempted to secure Austin a title shot against U.S. heavyweight champion Dustin Rhodes.

This hasn't sat well with Sid, who teamed with WCW World champion Big Van Vader as The Masters of the Power Bomb. Vicious certainly wasn't prepared to turn on his partner and pursue the federation's biggest prize. And despite the backing of the influential Parker and

(Continued on page 48)

press conference...



Jim Cornette isn't afraid to get involved on behalf of his men. Here, aided by Tom Prichard of The Heavenly Bodies, he attacks Rick Morton of Cornette's archenemies, The Rock 'n' Roll Express.

JIM CORNETTE

THE MAN WHO coined the phrase "dress for success" would seriously reconsider whether clothes really make the man if he'd been in New York when Jim Cornette arrived for his "Press Conference" with Senior Editor Bill Apter, Associate Publisher Craig Peters, and Senior Writer Dave Rosenbaum.

Any man who has spent $800 on a Hugo Boss business suit would wonder if he wasted his money upon seeing this hugely successful wrestling manager arrive done out in polyester: red sport jacket, green pants, polka-dot tie, plastic shoes, and white socks. Of course, there was the tennis racket, too, a bottom-of-the-line model no weekend hack would even think about using.

This is what James E. Cornette looks like. Loud polyester is what he is all about. He's abrasive, obnoxious, and outspoken. And while it's easy to doubt his guts and methods, it's impossible to question his results. You can place Cornette's name alongside Fred Blassie, Capt. Lou Albano, and The Grand Wizard as greats in managing.

How great is Cornette? Well, he lost one of the finest tag teams of the mid-1980s—The Midnight Express of Dennis Condrey and Bobby Eaton—and recreated them as the more successful Midnight Express of Eaton and Stan Lane. He formed the team of Lane, Eaton, and Tom Prichard as The Heavenly Bodies in Smoky Mountain Wrestling, watched that team break up, and still succeeded with a far inferior pairing of Prichard and Jim Del Ray. Folks, that's genius.

But don't let him hear you say it. The one thing cackling, cheating Jim Cornette desires most is the admiration of others, and he'll never get it as long as his methods are so devious. Eaton, presently wrestling in WCW, perhaps put it best: "If you're wrestling against his men, Cornette's the worst manager in the world. If you're one of his men, he's the best. I guess he does his job."

And lets everybody know it, too.

BILL APTER: That's a great outfit, Jim.

DAVE ROSENBAUM: I think he really means it.

CRAIG PETERS: He does, Dave. That outfit Jim's wearing is Bill's idea of dressing up. Even the hair's out of place.

JIM CORNETTE: **What's wrong with my outfit, boys? It's colorful, just like me. I add life to this sport. Everyone should love me.**

APTER: Let's be serious, Jim. After what you did to Bob Armstrong, it's amazing you and your men weren't arrested.

CORNETTE: **Arrested? For what? We were just protecting ourselves. Armstrong was making decisions which adversely affected The Heavenly Bodies' opportunity to make a living. Armstrong has his way of doing things and we have our way of doing things. Unfortunately for "Bullet" Bob, his way of doing things was hurting us.**

PETERS: Would you care to be specific?

CORNETTE: **Sure, I'll be specific. The first thing was that ridiculous, utterly idiotic, five-defense TV title rule. Why should a man have to give up what he earned just because he's a good wrestler? If not for that, "Beautiful" Bobby would still be with us, but Armstrong was obviously trying to get rid of him. Then he changed the rules for our defenses of the tag team title. What's not fair just isn't fair, men, and Armstrong wasn't being fair.**

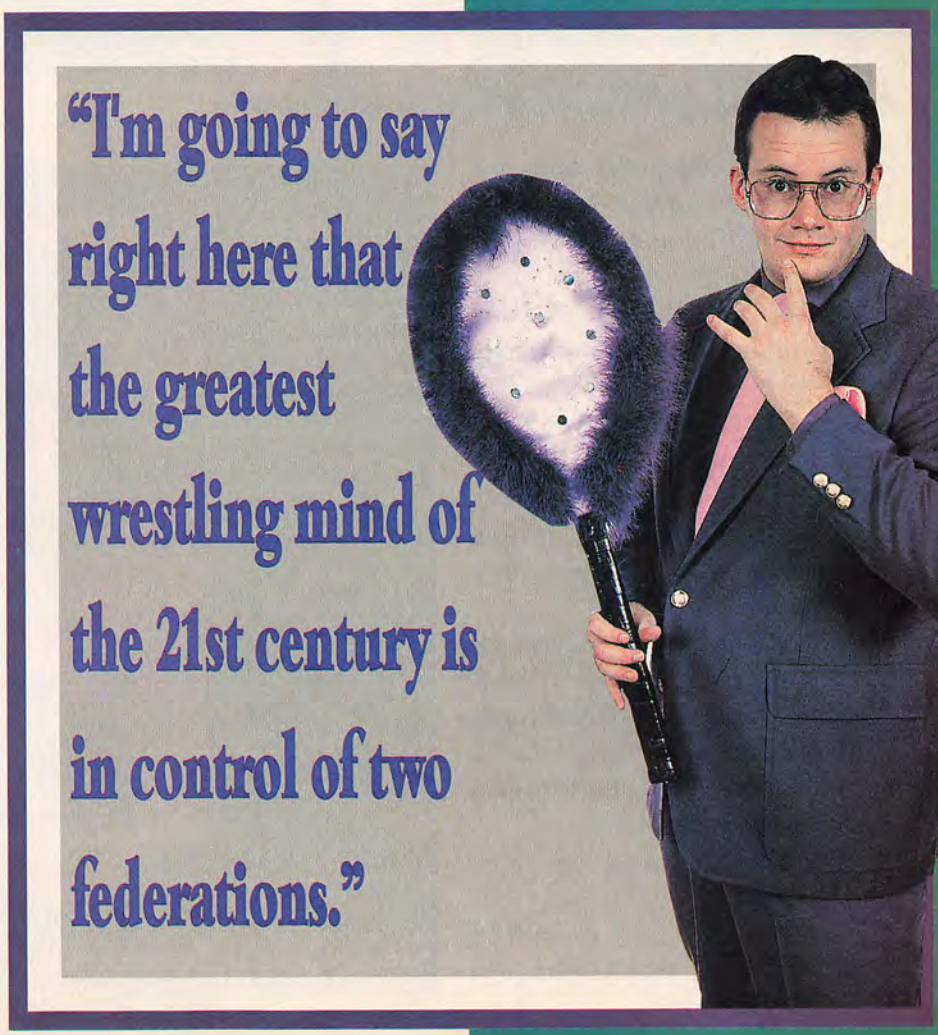
ROSENBAUM: Do you think he was trying to get rid of all of you?

CORNETTE: **Dave, if he had the legal right to get rid of James E. Cornette and The Heavenly Bodies, he would've done it. It's just a good thing I could afford more expensive lawyers than he could.**

PETERS: Unfortunately, that's often the difference in legal cases. But let's face it, Jim: Armstrong knows as well as the rest of us do that you're a troublemaker. Everywhere you go things start to go wrong for everyone but yourself. It's kind of like a landlord not wanting to rent to people with animals. Armstrong was protecting his piece of property.

CORNETTE: **But it's not his property, and that's where you and Armstrong and his lawyers were wrong! Armstrong was merely the *commissioner* of SMW. He couldn't say who was allowed to wrestle there! All he**

Every issue, reporters from PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED will participate in an incisive press conference with a top wrestling star. The questions will be demanding. And the answers will reveal the innermost thoughts of the giants of the sport.



Cornette with Jim Del Ray (left) and Prichard. The Heavenly Bodies gave Rick and Scott Steiner all they could handle at SummerSlam; in fact, Cornette maintains that match led to the brothers' eventual demise as WWF World tag team champions.

could do is enforce the rules and he didn't even do that very well.

APTER: Will you make a better commissioner?

CORNETTE: **Better than incompetent Armstrong? Yeah, *hell* yeah!**

ROSENBAUM: You can't tell me things haven't worked out for you. I think you're really getting a kick out of watching Jim and Tom kick around Scott and Steve Armstrong.

CORNETTE: **Yeah, maybe so, but it's no big surprise. There's nothing about those Armstrongs that made me nervous for a minute. I have the superior team and everybody knows it.**

ROSENBAUM: And you have The Bruise Brothers.

CORNETTE: **And I have The Bruise Brothers, that's right. You could say I'm in control of two federations. In fact, I'm going to say right here that the greatest wrestling mind of the 21st century is in control of two federations.**

PETERS: Are you talking about the WWF? You're hardly controlling that federation!

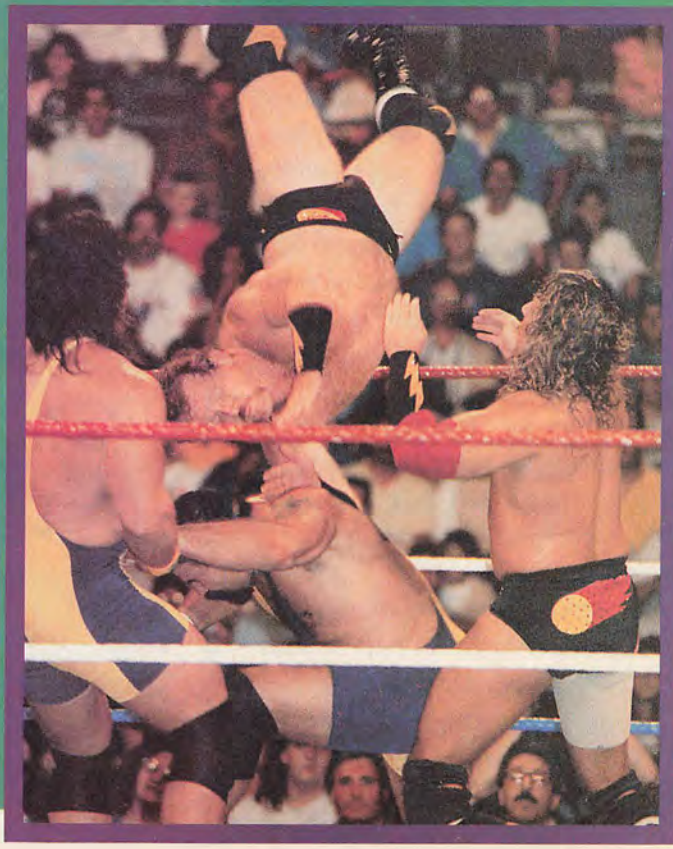
CORNETTE: **What are you talking about, Peters? What's that gibberish emanating from your mouth? My men lost one match to the Steiners, but it was a great match, and it set up the Steiners for the loss to The Quebecers.**

APTER: You're taking credit for that, too?

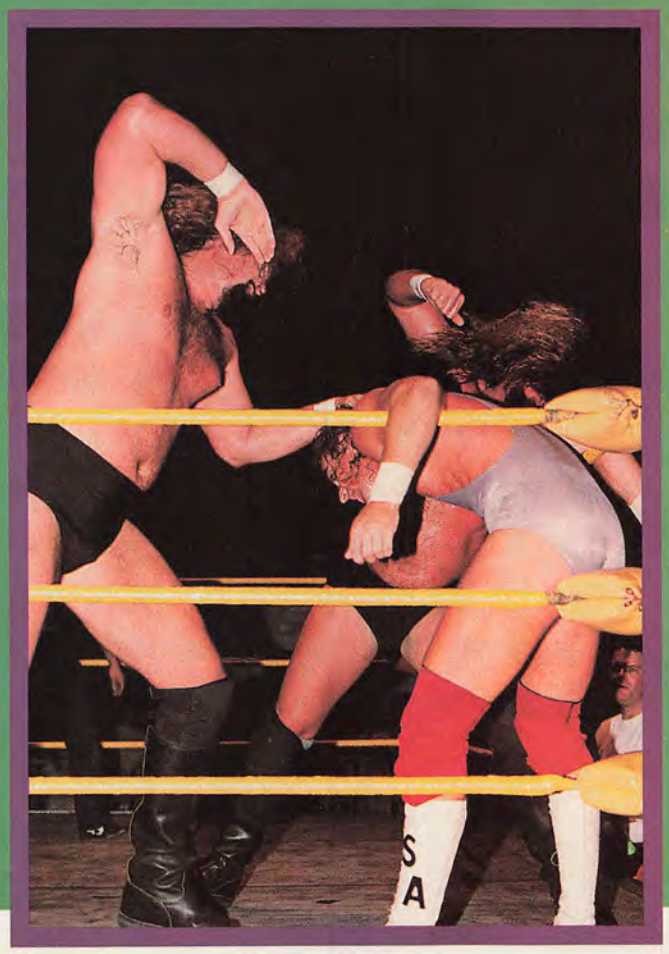
CORNETTE: **Heck, why not? The Steiners were exhausted after wrestling "Gigolo" Jim and Tom.**

PETERS: I don't believe this.

CORNETTE: **You don't believe it? Well, go ask the Steiners, boys. Rick told me so himself.**



Jim Del Ray flips over Rick Steiner at SummerSlam. According to Cornette, The Heavenly Bodies have the potential to win a tag team title in any federation. He believes the former Smoky Mountain champions could eventually win the WWF World belts.



Cornette also has a rivalry with the Armstrong family, shown as The Bruise Brothers (Ron & Don Harris) pummel Scott Armstrong. Meanwhile, Scott's father, Bob Armstrong, lost the Smoky Mountain commissioner's position to Cornette, and has been forced to leave the federation.

PETERS: Rick Steiner told you that they lost to The Quebecers because of The Heavenly Bodies?

CORNETTE: **That's right.**

PETERS: I don't believe this. The matches were two weeks apart.

CORNETTE: **I told you, go and ask Steiner yourself.**

PETERS: Fine. Next time I speak to Rick Steiner, I'll ask him if they lost to The Quebecers because they were exhausted from wrestling The Heavenly Bodies.

APTER: I imagine you're also going to take the credit for Yokozuna retaining his WWF World championship against Lex Luger.

CORNETTE: **That's true, too. I virtually guaranteed that Yokozuna wouldn't lose the belt.**

PETERS: How's that?

CORNETTE: **What's wrong with you, Peters? Do you really think Yokozuna couldn't have gotten up or rolled back into the ring before the 10-count? Yokozuna knew, because of me, that Luger was only getting one shot at him, so he had no reason to get back into the ring. Now Luger's out of his hair and Yokozuna can get his mind back on business.**

ROSENBAUM: Guys, he has a point there. Titles don't change hands on DQs or countouts in the WWF, so Yokozuna laid down and kept the belt. Getting up would have been foolish.

CORNETTE: **That's exactly right, Rosenbaum. I'm glad there's one person with a brain around here, 'cause Apter and Peters sure don't have theirs working on overdrive. Neither do the Steiners, accepting those Quebec rules *(laughs).***

APTER: Let's get back to reality for a minute. Are you now Yokozuna's co-manager?

CORNETTE: **Nope.**

APTER: Are you his adviser?

CORNETTE: **Nope.**

APTER: Then what are you?

CORNETTE: **I'm Mr. Fuji's friend and I just wanted to make sure a man I don't think deserves the belt didn't get the belt. That's all.**

PETERS: So you were being a bad Samaritan?

CORNETTE: **There's no such thing as a bad Samaritan, Peters. Look it up in your dictionary. I was helping Fuji with legal matters. He's a foreigner, and doesn't know exactly how things work around here. Of course, I have great legal minds working for me day and night and I was able to give some advice. Everyone's entitled to proper legal advice.**

APTER: This sounds like an ad for Jacoby and Meyers.

ROSENBAUM: Let's wind this up, Jim. What are your objectives for the next few months?

CORNETTE: **I don't have any objectives, just plans, and I'm gonna let the chips fall as they may. The Heavenly Bodies have the ability to win a tag team title anywhere they go, and if it's in the WWF, fine. Bob Armstrong should start looking for a new job. If Scott and Steve Armstrong want to take care of their father, they should put him in a nursing home. And if anyone wants to cross my path, they're going to have to pay the consequences. My trusty tennis racket is ready.** □

HOCKEY STICKING!

Didn't know Johnny Polo (above) was a hockey fan, eh? *Mais oui!* He snuck the stick into the ring, and when Scott Steiner grabbed it from Jacques (opposite left), there went the WWF tag team title on disqualification, due to obscure "Province Of Quebec rules. Scott earned a title rematch for the brothers by beating Pierre in solo action, and mockingly holds the infamous stick (opposite right).

Overconfident Rick and Scott Steiner agreed to wrestle underrated foes under unusual stipulations. When it ended, Scott was headed for the penalty box, and The Quebecers were WWF tag team champions!

The Steiners Go To A Wrestling Match–And A Hockey Game Breaks Out!

By Chris Bernucca

RICK AND SCOTT Steiner have never been short on confidence. Throughout their amateur careers at the University of Michigan and their stints in the pro ranks in WCW and the WWF, the brothers have always believed that no matter where they compete, they're the best team in the building that night or day.

So when the Steiners swaggered into the ring at the Manhattan Center on September 13, they had good reason to do so. They were tag team champions, a title won from Money Inc. three months earlier. They had repelled The Heavenly Bodies, the Jim Cornette-led invaders from Smoky Mountain Wrestling, at SummerSlam. Their foes were a relatively new team who appeared to pose little threat.

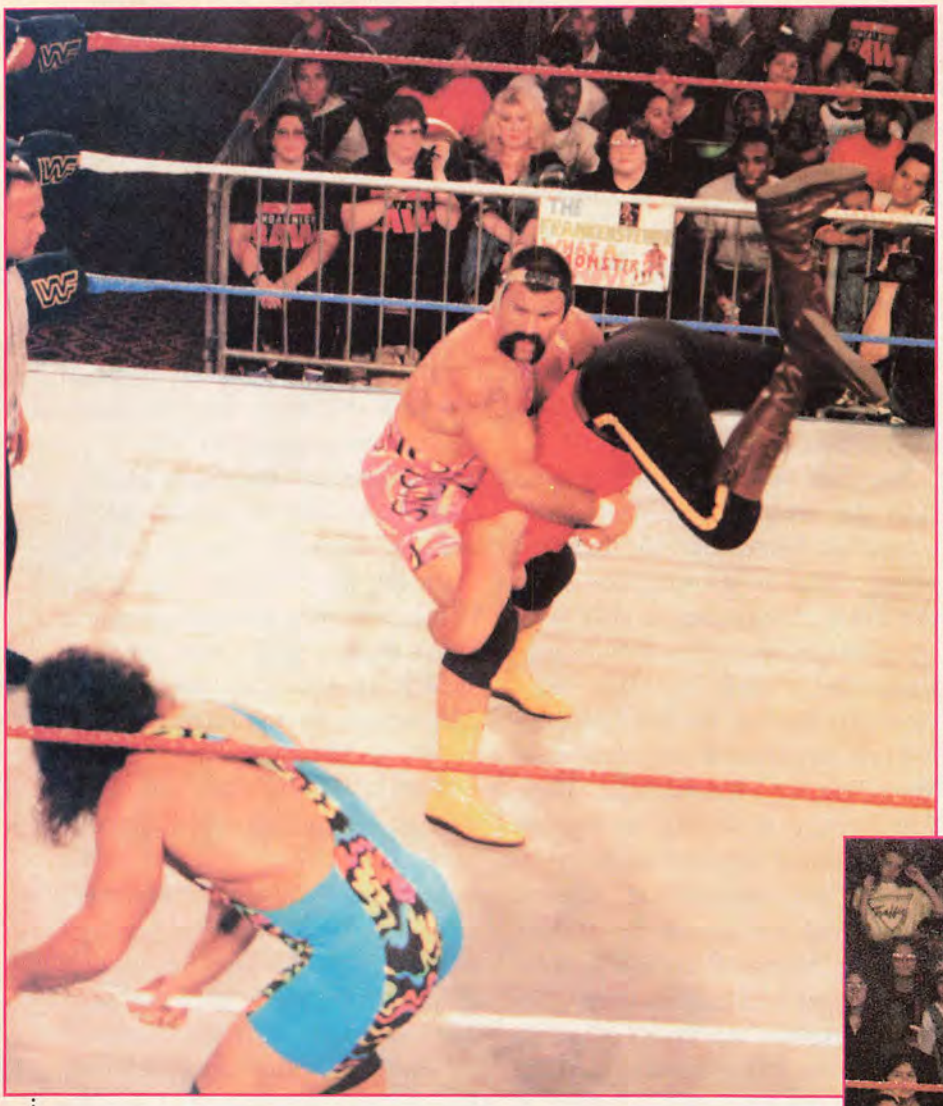
But The Quebecers had different ideas. With the assistance of their manager, Johnny Polo, the foreigners devised a plan for victory that would exploit the Steiners' overconfidence and stubbornness. The challengers developed a group of so-called "Province Of Quebec" rules. Those stipulations rendered piledrivers, moves originating from the top rope, and tossing a foe over the top rope illegal. A disqualification loss would carry the same weight as one by pinfall or submission.

Despite the stipulations, the brothers still expected a stroll through the park. Instead, they walked into a buzzsaw. They badly underestimated the skills of their opponents. Their arrogance quickly became stupidity, nearly costing them the match on several occasions. And after gaining control of Polo's hockey stick, Scott foolishly used it on his opponent and was disqualified by the referee, giving the title to The Quebecers.

"I don't know what was going through their minds, but it couldn't have been much," said one WWF rulebreaker. "The biggest advantage in being champion is that you have to get pinned to lose the title. If they were willing to give that away that easily, they can't be too smart."

"Hah!" exclaimed Paul E. Dangerously when told of the circumstances. "Same old Steiners. Too dumb for their own good. Why do you think it was so easy for The Dangerous Alliance to hold on to the tag team title in WCW? Because we were wrestling against mental midgets, that's why! The Steiners are no different than any athlete blessed with an extraordinary amount of talent. They think that their skills will make up for whatever shortcomings they have. You need brains, too."

After seeing a videotape of the match, Dangerously noted, "See that look on Scott Steiner's face while holding the hockey stick? It's as if he didn't know what it was. I'd understand his bewilderment if he was from Louisiana, but he's from Michigan, snowy Michigan. Didn't he ever follow the Red Wings?"



Rick Steiner prepares to piledrive Jacques, but Scott warns his brother that such a move would result in disqualification and a title loss. The Steiners seemed uncomfortable with the unconventional stipulations.

Dangerously, currently a manager in ECW, may be a bit harsh, but his point has merit. At several times, the Steiners didn't have on their thinking caps. Just how many classes *did* they attend at Ann Arbor, anyway? To wit:

Accepting "Province Of Quebec" rules. The staff of PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED pooled its collective memory and could not recall any match conducted under such rules. We were pretty sure they did not exist and were created by Polo and The Quebecers for this match only. Were these regulations actually used in cards held at the Montreal Forum, Le Colisee in Quebec City, or arenas in Hull, Sherbrooke, or Trois-Rivieres? To be completely sure, we asked two reliable sources if they had ever heard of such an animal.

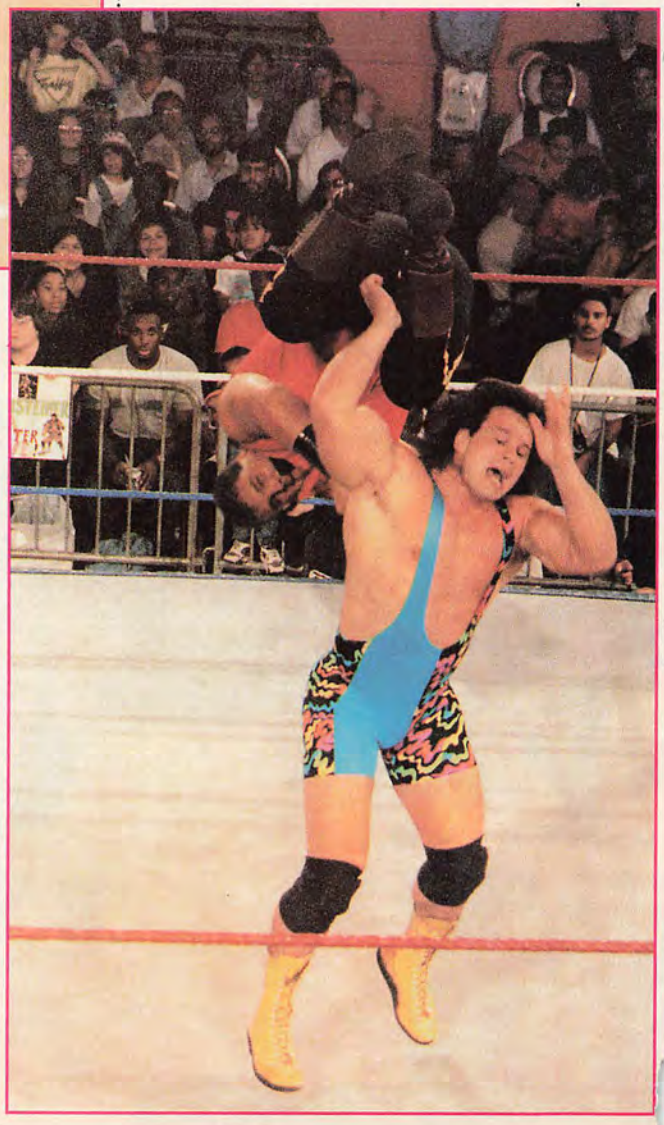
"I've been in and around wrestling for 40 years, and I've never heard of them," said Stu Hart, who lives in Calgary, Alberta. "There's no such thing as 'Province Of Alberta' rules, either."

"They do not exist," said French-Canadian Rick Martel. "As they might say in Quebec, '*Les freres est fou* [the brothers are crazy].'"

A quick start. The Steiners dominated the first five minutes of the bout, throwing Jacques and Pierre around the ring like rag dolls. They scored several near-pins and believed victory was at hand. When The Quebecers found a second wind, the Steiners were spent, and Scott took a tremendous beating.

A short attention span. After agreeing to the special stipulations, the Steiners twice were nearly disqualified for violating the rules. Scott almost tossed Jacques over the top rope, while Rick had to be

During the first few minutes of the bout, the Steiners had things pretty much their own way with The Quebecers. Perhaps this added to the overconfidence that eventually cost them the title belts.

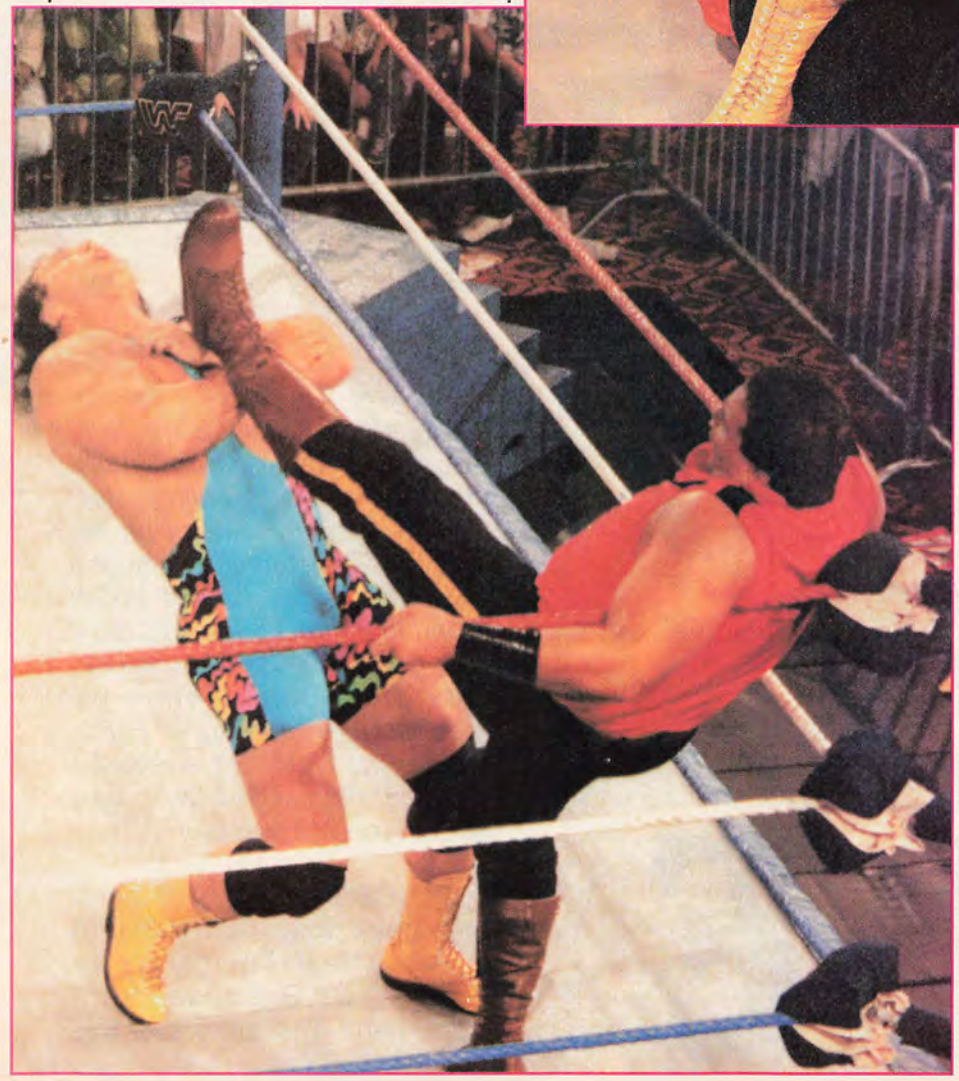


reminded by his brother not to execute a piledriver. The Steiners appeared to be out of synch in adapting to the new rules.

An inability to maintain poise. On several occasions, The Quebecers broke up pin attempts with outside interference. While unfair, this is not something the Steiners have never dealt with before. Instead of biding their time, they reacted with interference of their own, causing mayhem and disarray upon which rulebreakers like The Quebecers thrive.

The use of a foreign object. Polo arrived at ringside midway through the match, clad in a Montreal Canadiens sweater and toting a hockey stick. During the mayhem, he tried to use the stick on Scott Steiner, but his strategy backfired when Steiner gained control of the stick. Polo scurried out of the ring, leaving the four combatants between the ropes. Steiner began hitting Jacques with the stick, at which point the referee turned around and spotted him. Had Steiner just snapped the stick in two over his knee, the champs would have regained the upper hand. Instead, he was disqualified. The brothers were left seething in the ring as the Quebecers and Polo departed with the belts.

A cornered Pierre kicks Scott in the chin. The Francophone challengers were incredibly resilient, a quality that helped them eventually win the title.



"Dogfaced Gremlin" Rick finds the going tough against Jacques. The Steiners, who waited months before finally winning the WWF tag title, are again on the outside looking in after a mere 12-week reign.

Perhaps the lack of intellect among WWF tag teams is contagious. Later on the card, Polo, under pressure from WWF head Vince McMahon, agreed to a singles match between Pierre and Scott Steiner to determine if the former champions can receive a title rematch. Scott beat Pierre, so a rematch was set at press time.

In preparation, perhaps both Steiner brothers should resort to a diet of fish. It is said to be brain food. □

The Nasty Boys' Own Story:

THE 10 NASTIEST THINGS WE'VE EVER DONE

*(Editor's note: Nasty Boys Jerry Sags and Brian Knobs have made a habit of granting interview requests by taking over the interview, the story idea, and the computer terminal. The WCW World tag team champions did it recently in **WCW Magazine;** they did it again when we requested an interview. Fortunately, The Nasty Boys reveal a lot about themselves when they write in the first person.)*

KNOBS AND SAGS here, back again with "The 10 Nastiest Things We've Ever Done." Good idea for a story, huh? The editors of this

Brian Knobs and Jerry Sags live up to their name as The Nasty Boys. They're on one bad roll, but it's nothing compared to some of the things they've done. Read it and weep—or maybe laugh

rag wanted to write some crap about us, but we wouldn't let them. That's a good thing for you, too, because they were going to bore you to death.

We're sure you'd rather hear about the nasty things The Nasty Boys have done. Maybe one day we'll do them to you. Maybe we already have.

By the way, the editors said we couldn't talk about any of the illegal stuff, even if the statute of limitations may have run out. So you're gonna have to settle for the R-rated version.

This is it, straight from us.

1

Remember when we and the Steiners were signing those contracts for our match at Halloween Havoc '90? We slammed Scott through a table and got Rick, too. A few days later we jumped Scott again and did a number on his back. He can still feel it. A few years after

At Halloween Havoc '90, we caused Scott Steiner plenty of havoc, first at the contract signing and then in the match itself. When we got through with him, he was whimpering like one of brother Rick's puppies.

that in the WWF, we handcuffed Big Bossman to the ropes and let him feel the power of The Nasty Boys. Yeah, he can still feel it, too.

2

You'd better believe nothing makes a high school freshman feel better than beating up seniors, especially when it's the quarterback and running back of the football team in front of their girlfriends and parents. We did that. One of the fathers tried to get in our way, and we knocked his teeth out. "Hey, baldie," Jerry said. "Now you're toothless, too."

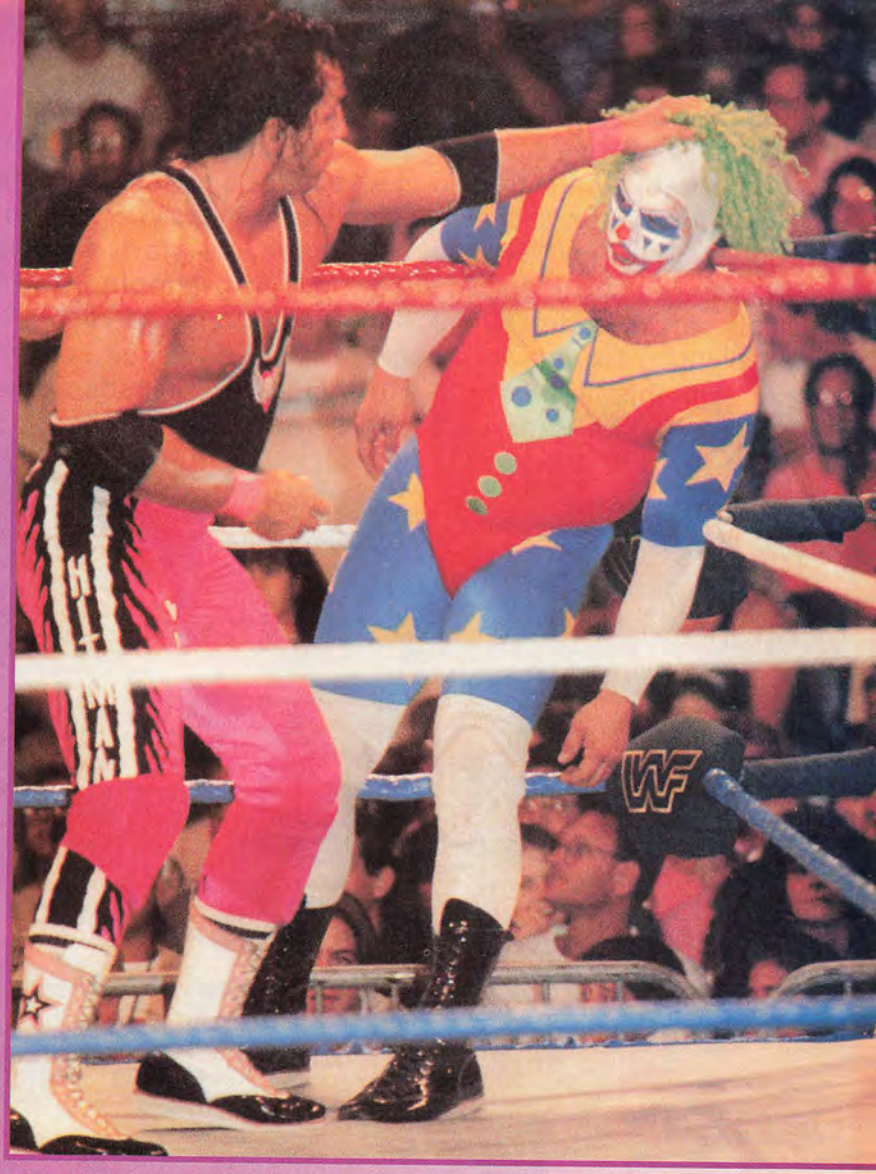
(Continued on page 50)

Doink

Now We're Laughing With Him, Not At Him!

Here he comes, that's Doink the Clown! And suddenly, it's the WWF's rulebreakers—not the fan favorites—who die each time they hear this sound.

Less than a year ago, Doink the Clown debuted as a rulebreaker and was called the biggest joke in the WWF. Now he's changed his ways, and the joke is on the rulebreakers who once befriended him



Bret Hart pummels Doink, who was pinch-hitting for a supposedly injured Jerry Lawler at SummerSlam. The joker was not amused with the outcome, and vice versa; Doink later gained revenge by soaking "The King."

Need proof of the clown's conversion? Several months ago, he was befriended and defended by WWF analyst Bobby Heenan. Today, he's giving Heenan water on "The Brain."

By Chris Bernucca

DOINK THE CLOWN emerged from the dressing room, carrying two buckets presumably filled with water. He stopped at the guard rail separating the fans from the wrestlers and set down one of the buckets. A silly grin broke across his face as he lined up his target. Gasps came from those in the front rows of the Manhattan Center as he reared back and tossed the contents into the crowd.

Confetti.

There was a sigh of relief, followed by a brief moment of laughter. Doink picked up the remaining bucket and made his way to the other side of the ring. Again, he threatened ringsiders with its contents. Surely, this bucket would be filled with the wet stuff.

Confetti again.

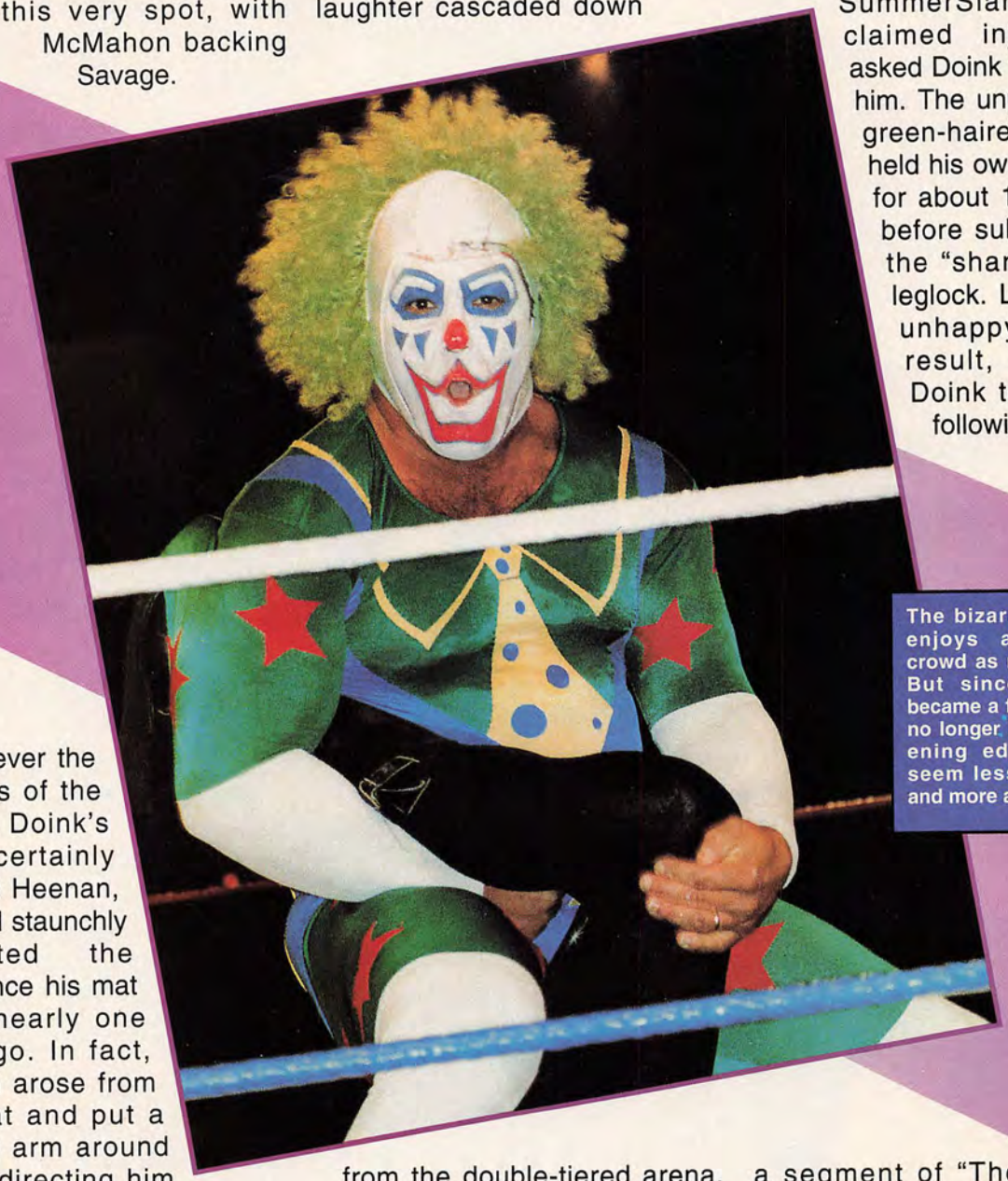
More laughter abounded as Doink entered the ring for his match on *WWF Monday Night Raw* against Rich Myer. That's where the joking stopped. Doink was all business, putting away his overmatched foe in a matter of minutes following a series of takedowns.

Upon leaving the ring, Doink lifted the apron to discover

another bucket. This time, he made his way toward the broadcast table, where tuxedo-clad Vince McMahon sat, alongside Bobby "The Brain" Heenan and Randy "Macho Man" Savage. Only weeks earlier, Doink had challenged Savage to a match from this very spot, with McMahon backing Savage.

Water!

Fans and cameramen ducked out of the way as Heenan was drenched. With water in his eyes, he started floundering around, slipping and sliding while trying to regain his balance and composure. The laughter cascaded down from the double-tiered arena, the crowd roaring approval of Doink's practical joke.



The bizarre Doink still enjoys amusing the crowd as much as ever. But since the clown became a fan favorite, he no longer has his threatening edge. Children seem less intimidated and more appreciative.

Whatever the contents of the bucket, Doink's target certainly was not Heenan, who had staunchly supported the joker since his mat debut nearly one year ago. In fact, Heenan arose from his seat and put a friendly arm around Doink, directing him toward the table.

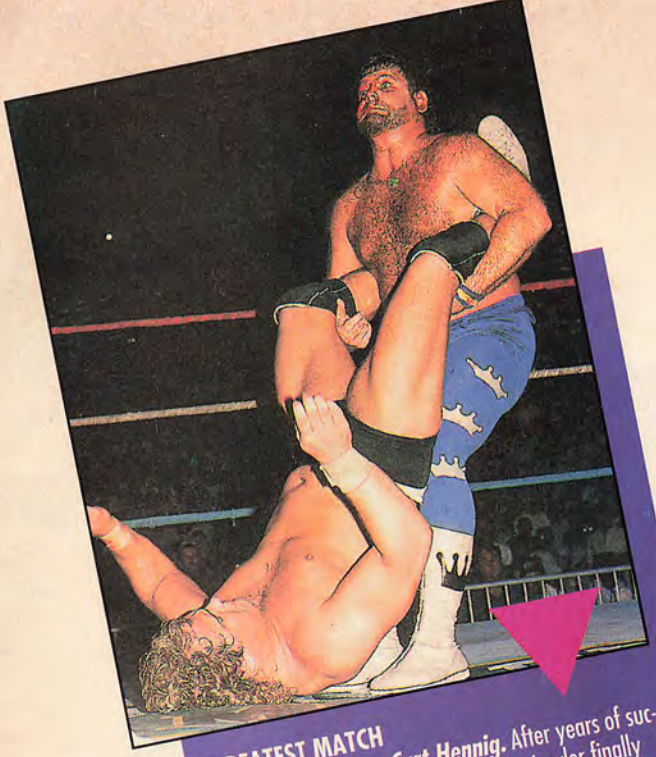
Heenan stood off to the side, away from the expected attack on McMahon and Savage. At the last instant, though, Doink turned and pitched the contents of the bucket directly into Heenan's face.

Heenan was just the latest target of Doink, who apparently is undergoing a makeover even more drastic than the facepaint he already employs. Since SummerSlam, the one-time scourge of the federation has changed his ways, preferring to perform his pranks upon rule-breakers rather than fan favorites.

Doink was personally selected by Jerry Lawler to wrestle Bret Hart in his stead at SummerSlam. Lawler claimed injury and asked Doink to fill in for him. The unpredictable green-haired jokester held his own with Hart for about 10 minutes before submitting to the "sharpshooter" leglock. Lawler was unhappy with the result, and took Doink to task the following night on a segment of "The King's Court." The jester responded by dousing Lawler with a bucket of water.

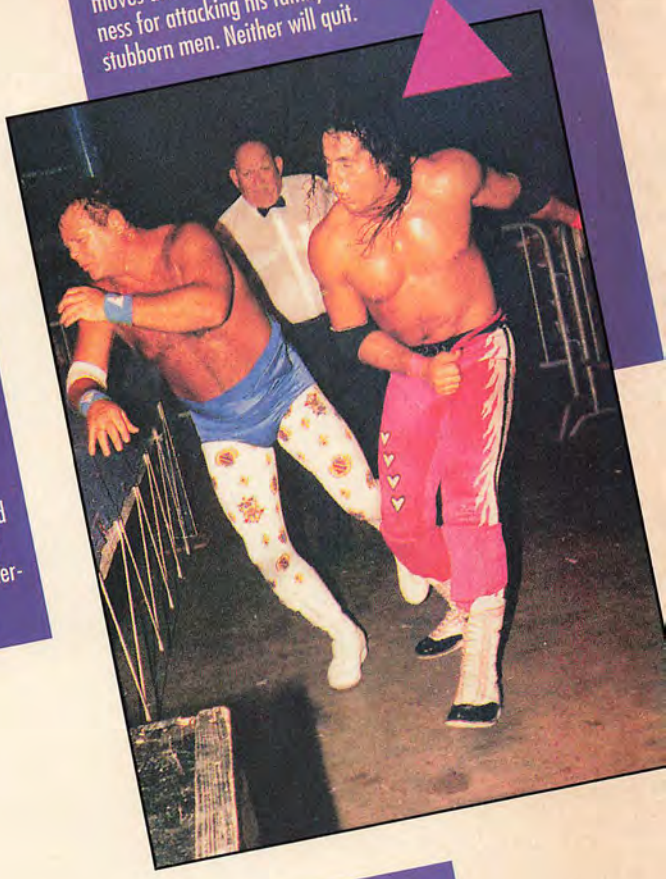
Doink's antics for the evening were not finished, however. Later, he emerged during a match involving Bam Bam

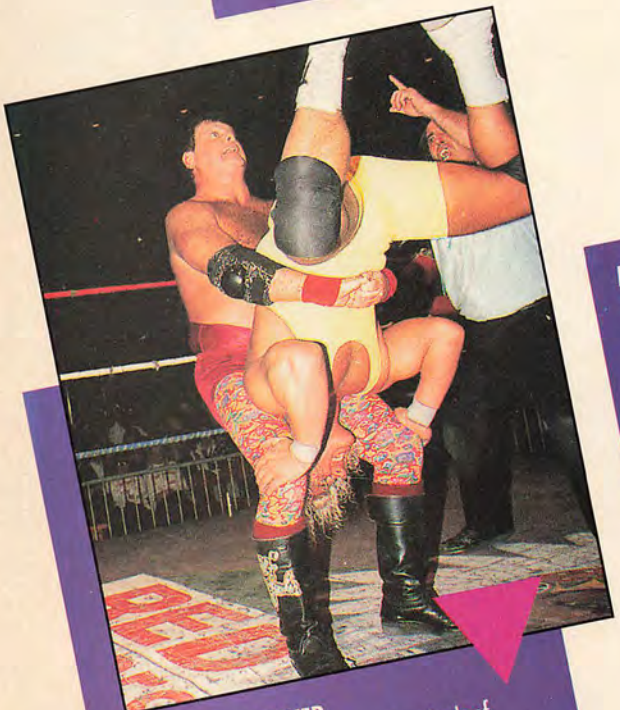
(Continued on page 60)



GREATEST MATCH
May 2, 1987, vs. Curt Hennig. After years of success as a regional champion and hero, Lawler finally gained international acclaim with a win over the talented Hennig for the AWA World title. Lawler was so proud of his victory that he gladly defended the belt in inter-federation matches.

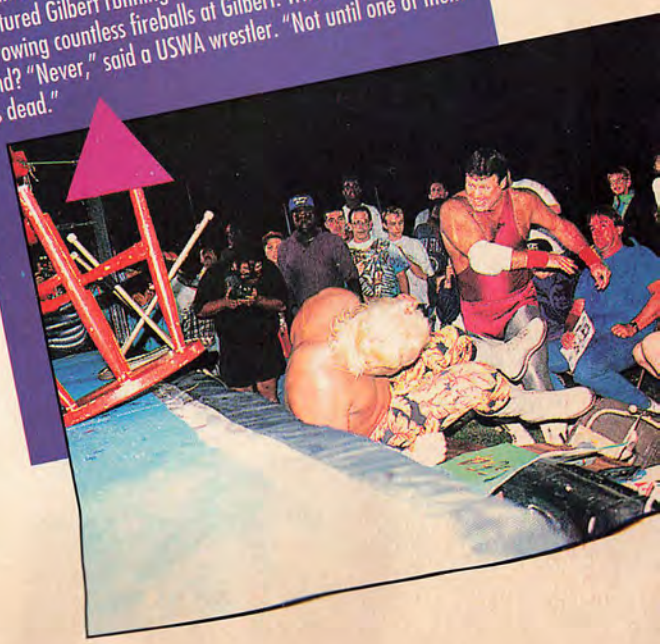
TOUGHEST OPPONENT
Bret Hart. Kerry Von Erich was great, but the former WWF World champion is clearly the best wrestler Lawler has ever faced. The "Hitman" has a spectacular array of moves and is determined to put "The King" out of business for attacking his family. This is a battle of two very stubborn men. Neither will quit.





FAVORITE MANEUVER
Piledriver. Curt Hennig is one of hundreds of wrestlers Lawler has used his piledriver on. It is a devastating maneuver when delivered with the gusto and energy Lawler uses. Runner-up: "The King's" famous flying fistdrop off the top rope. Favorite non-maneuver: a fireball which Lawler loves to throw at unwary opponents!

MOST HATED OPPONENT
Eddie Gilbert. "Hot Stuff" and "The King" have feuded for nearly a decade and it seems as if they'll never stop. On again and off again (but mostly on again), this feud has featured Gilbert running over Lawler with a car and Lawler throwing countless fireballs at Gilbert. When will the feud end? "Never," said a USWA wrestler. "Not until one of them is dead."



PRO Wrestling ILLUSTRATED

JERRY LAWLER

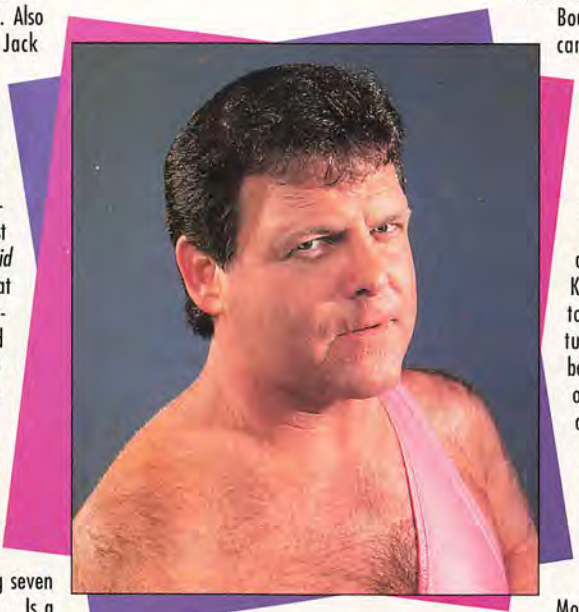
"The King"

close-up:

JERRY LAWLER

Hometown: Memphis, Tennessee
Height: 6'
Weight: 234
Years Pro: 23

Jerry "The King" Lawler is simultaneously one of the most loved and most hated men in wrestling ... He is loved in Memphis, Tennessee, where he has been a hometown hero and a devoted resident all his life ... But he is despised in the WWF, where his arrogant, egotistical attitude got him into feuds with former World champion Bret Hart and federation head Vince McMahon ... Turned pro in 1970 and won the Southern title in 1974 ... Wrestled his first NWA title match and proclaimed himself "The King of Wrestling" ... Held the Southern belt six of the next eight years ... Feuded with Bill Dundee, Rocky Johnson, Paul Orndorff, and Tommy Rich ... Broke Elvis Presley's consecutive sellout record in the Mid-South Coliseum in Memphis ... Claims victories over Ric Flair, Hulk Hogan, and Randy Savage ... Also has defeated Dory Funk Jr., Terry Funk, Jack Brisco, and Harley Race ... Missed 1980 with a broken leg, but made an incredible comeback and was unbeaten for six months ... Is perhaps best known for his feud with comedian Andy Kaufman ... Lawler felt Kaufman was belittling the sport by challenging females to wrestling matches ... The most famous incident was on *Late Night With David Letterman,* when Lawler threw hot coffee at Kaufman ... Lawler was no stranger to the airwaves. He has hosted his own radio show and released two record albums ... Lawler is also a successful commercial artist ... Achieved his greatest title success on May 9, 1988, when he defeated Curt Hennig for the AWA World title ... Gave honor to the belt by defending it against the champions of various federations ... His most difficult challenger was World Class champion Kerry Von Erich ... Was stripped of the belt in 1989 for missing seven mandatory title defenses in AWA territories ... Is a 16-time USWA heavyweight champion (a figure that may well change by the time you read this!) ... A feud with longtime enemy Eddie Gilbert is a recurring theme of Lawler's career ... Pinned Von Erich in a USWA heavyweight vs. Texas title match on December 15, 1989, at The Sportatorium in Dallas when ringside commentator Terrance Garvin interfered on Lawler's behalf ... Lost the title to The Snowman on June 18, 1990, in a match where former world boxing champion Leon Spinks was special referee ... The Snowman-Lawler feud was hot at first, but they eventually became friends when Snowman saved Lawler from an attack ... The Gilbert-Lawler war was on again in mid-1990 and featured its most frightening incident: Gilbert intentionally struck Lawler with a car ... Gilbert claimed it was an accident ... Lawler and Terry Funk met for the first time in 14 years at "Autumn Armageddon '90" on September 15, 1990 ... Gilbert interfered and the match degenerated into a four-way brawl ... Won the vacant USWA title by defeating Austin Idol in the final round of a 21-man tournament on October 8, 1990, in Memphis ... The tournament was ordered when The Snowman was stripped of the belt ... Funk and Gilbert piledrived Lawler during the semifinal ... After the final match, Funk, Gilbert, and Idol triple-teamed him ... Held the belt for nearly a month before losing it to Funk ... Gilbert interfered and Funk used a chain to knock out Lawler ... Funk placed posters all over the WMC-TV studio in Memphis, offering $10,000 to anyone who could injure Lawler and $50,000 to anyone who could end his career ... When Funk placed a bounty on Lawler and Jarrett, Steve Keirn and Stan Lane—Lawler's friends—surprisingly answered the challenge ... Gilbert and Lawler ended up working together in a joint effort to drive USWA Texas champion Eric Embry out of Memphis ... Embry had insulted Tennessee, birthplace of Gilbert and Lawler's adopted home ... Regained the USWA title from Funk on March 11, 1991, and shocked fans by announcing it might have been his last match ... "I have to get a little rest," said Lawler, who suffered from several nagging injuries ... But he couldn't stay away from the ring when Embry injured youngsters Bill Rush and Todd Johnson ... After Lawler defeated Embry that April 26 in a steel cage match for the USWA heavyweight and Texas title, doctors warned him to retire or risk a crippling injury ... He relented and agreed to take a few months off ... Continued feuding with Embry and survived a vicious chain attack by Leatherface ... Four-month title reign ended with a loss to 440-pound Awesome Kong ... Bounced back just a week later and overcame the seemingly invincible Kong ... Gilbert, the Global TV champ, challenged Lawler to a belt vs. belt match, which Lawler won by disqualification ... USWA title was held-up by referee Frank Morell on December 7, 1991, after Lawler threw fire in Kamala's face ... Kamala beat Lawler for the title two days later ... That feud intensified as Kamala relied on his handlers' interference to save the title ... Lawler eventually turned his attention to The Moondogs, becoming obsessed with running them out of the USWA ... Briefly pushed aside that obsession to beat Kamala on May 4, 1992. It was his 10th USWA title ... The Lawler-Gilbert feud resumed ... Gilbert vowed to retire if he lost a June 15, 1992, match to Lawler ... Gilbert won the match and the USWA belt ... Lawler finally won his war with The Moondogs when he and Jeff Jarrett beat them for the USWA tag team title on June 29 ... The Moondogs regained the belts just one week later ... Belts switched hands again on July 20 with a victory by Lawler and Jarrett ... Career took a stunningly new turn on August 9, 1992, when Bret Hart announced he would defend the WWF World title against Jarrett ... That opened the door for Lawler's entrance to the WWF ... Appeared in the WWF's Royal Rumble ... Enraged WWF fans with his pro-rulebreaker attitude ... The WWF-USWA crossover continued when Papa Shango beat Lawler for the USWA title on May 3, 1993 ... Bret Hart won the WWF's "King of the Ring" tournament and Lawler declared he was the only "King" ... Attacked Hart afterward, piledriving him on a set of steps prior to the coronation ... Feuded with Bret Hart and his brother, Owen, at both USWA and WWF venues ... Won his 15th USWA singles title by beating Owen on July 5 ... Won a controversial match over Bret at SummerSlam '93 after initially claiming to have been injured in a car accident ... When McMahon interfered in a USWA match between Lawler and Paul Neighbors, Lawler issued a challenge to the WWF head ... It's not hard to tell who the fans are siding with ... In Tennessee and adjoining states, everyone's for Lawler ... Everywhere else, sentiment is clearly against the original "King" ... Dropped USWA title to WWF invader Tatanka on September 13, but gained it back for his 16th crown a week later. □



SPECIAL FAN POLL

ACHIEVEMENT '93

VOTE FOR 1993's BEST WRESTLERS AND MATCHES!

Once again it's that most important time of the year—the time when we open the pages of this magazine to wrestling's most incisive experts: our readers. It's up to you to make decisions in 11 categories for the PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED Achievement '93 Awards. This is wrestling's most important and prestigious fan poll. Don't be counted out—cast your votes today!

THE EYES OF the wrestling world are looking to the pages of this magazine. Because every year, in the January issue of PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED, wrestling fans answer the sport's most important questions:

Who were the best wrestlers of the year just past? Who improved the most? Who's been the most successful manager? The most inspiring wrestler? The most impressive rookie? The most popular and the most hated? Who's been the best tag team? What's been the greatest match? The wildest feud? The most impressive comeback? And who deserves that highest of all honors: Wrestler of the Year?

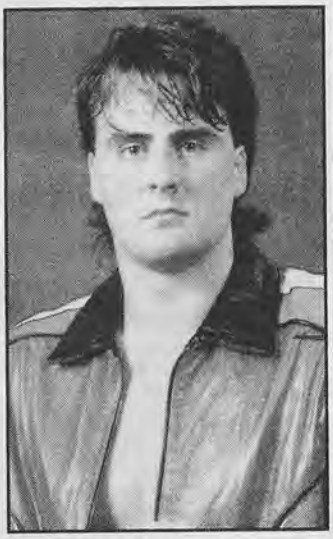
The answers to these questions are determined by wrestling's true experts—you, the readers of PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED. It is up to you to cast your votes for the best of the past year—the PWI Achievement '93 Awards.

In this special section, descriptions of the various categories are included along with last year's winners and a listing of some of this year's top candidates in alphabetical order. Read the descriptions and take some time to think about your choices for the various awards; your choices, of course, are not limited to the top contenders listed. Then cast your votes on the ballot provided and mail it in. It's that easy!

Results of the Achievement '93 fan poll will be printed in the spectacular year-end double-issue of PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED, cover dated March 1994, which will go on sale on or about December 28, 1993. In order for your vote to count, we ***must*** *receive your ballot no later than December 1.*

This is the most respected and prestigious fan poll in all of professional wrestling, and the results will be closely examined by fans and professionals alike. ***Every*** *vote counts. Your voice* ***must*** *be heard. Fill in and mail your ballot today!*

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

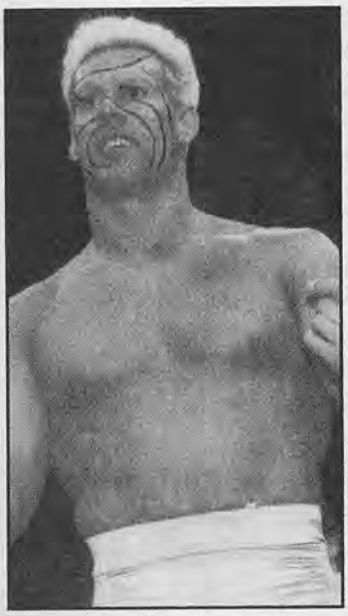


—1992 Winner—
Erik Watts

The man you select as Rookie of the Year must fulfill two qualifications: He must not have been a winner/runner-up in last year's vote, and he should have yet to complete his second full year as a pro by the time December 31, 1993, rolls around. A vote for Rookie of the Year is a vote for a possible future superstar—and world champion. (Note: We're making Doink—as well as Doinks II and III—ineligible due to our suspicions that he has competed under other names.)

Top candidates for 1993: Keith & Kent Cole, Bobby Duncum Jr., Robbie Eagle, John Hawk, Ice Train, Yoshi Kwan, Melvin Penrod Jr., Quebecer Pierre, Vampire Warrior, P.J. Walker.

MOST POPULAR WRESTLER OF THE YEAR



—1992 Winner—
Sting

Popularity is self-explanatory: cheers, adoration, and the love of the fans. This is a special award in that the winner is a success in the hearts of the fans, regardless of his success in the ring. A wrestler (or team) who observes the rules, who respects the fans, who is a true sportsman—and who receives the loudest cheers—is a fine choice for this category.

Top candidates for 1993: Johnny B. Badd, Doink, Ric Flair, Bret Hart, "Mr. Perfect" Curt Hennig, Jerry Lawler, Lex Luger, Dustin Rhodes, Randy Savage, Davey Boy Smith, Tracey Smothers, Sting, Tatanka.

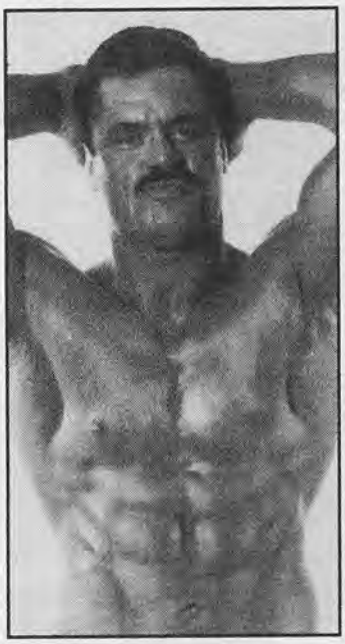
MOST IMPROVED WRESTLER OF THE YEAR

—1992 Winner—
Razor Ramon

For Most Improved Wrestler of the Year, pick someone who, throughout 1993, has worked the hardest to improve himself as a wrestler. The man who has struggled to learn several new maneuvers. The man who has captured a major title for the first time in his career. He can be a rulebreaker or a scientific wrestler, but his improvement should have been considerable and notable.

Top candidates for 1993: Shane Douglas, The Kid, Brian Lee, The Nasty Boys, Paul Roma, 2 Cold Scorpio, Davey Boy Smith, Tracey Smothers, Tatanka.

MOST HATED WRESTLER OF THE YEAR



— 1992 Winner —
Rick Rude

The flip side of popularity: jeers, despisal, and the utter contempt of the fans. Some wrestlers openly court the fans' hatred, others simply don't care what the fans think. Who receives the loudest boos? Who has committed the most heinous deeds? Who deserves to be banned from the sport? Those are considerations in choosing your Most Hated Wrestler of the Year.

Top candidates for 1993: Jerry Lawler, Brian Lee, Shawn Michaels, Rick Rude, Luna Vachon, Big Van Vader, Sid Vicious, Yokozuna.

MATCH OF THE YEAR

Every wrestling fan, at one time or another, thinks, "That was one of the greatest matches I've ever seen." If that happened to you in 1993, you know what this category is all about. The bout chosen as Match of the Year might well have historic significance (such as a major title change or a loser-leave-town match), though that is not a specific requirement.

Top candidates for 1993: January 24: Yokozuna in Royal Rumble; February 21: Cactus Jack vs. Paul Orndorff; May 3: Hulk Hogan vs. The Great Muta; May 23: Big Van Vader vs. Davey Boy Smith; June 13: Bret Hart vs. "Mr. Perfect" Curt Hennig; July 18: Dustin Rhodes vs. Rick Rude, Iron-man challenge; July 19: Shawn Michaels vs. Marty Jannetty; August 30: Rick & Scott Steiner vs. The Heavenly Bodies.

—1992 Winner —
SummerSlam '92
Bret Hart vs. Davey Boy Smith

MANAGER OF THE YEAR

—1992 Winner —
Paul E. Dangerously

A manager's job varies depending on the wrestlers he manages. At one extreme, a manager offers moral support; at the other extreme, he or she can be a complex mixture of strategist, confidant, personal adviser, and business manager. Popularity or hatred should not come into play here. Your choice should be the individual who has the most successful stable of wrestlers.

Top candidates for 1993: Jesse Barr, Paul Bearer, Jim Cornette, Paul E. Dangerously, Mr. Fuji, Tammy Fytch, Jimmy Hart, Col. Robert Parker, Johnny Polo, Bert Prentice, Harley Race, Harvey Wippleman, Ron Wright.

TAG TEAM OF THE YEAR

The second most honored Achievement Award. Experience, skill, and success all count in this category, though whether a team is scientific or rule-breaking should make no difference. A Tag Team of the Year should be more than simply a great pairing; it should dominate the federation in which it competes—and, truly, the sport itself.

Top candidates for 1993: Arn Anderson & Paul Roma, The Bruise Brothers, Shane Douglas & Rick Steamboat, Hawk & Kensuke Sasaki, The Headhunters, The Headshrinkers, The Heavenly Bodies, The Hollywood Blonds, Money Inc., The Moondogs, The Nasty Boys, The Rock 'n' Roll Express, 2 Cold Scorpio & Marcus Alexander Bagwell, Rick & Scott Steiner.

—1992 Winners —
Terry Gordy & Steve Williams

FEUD OF THE YEAR

Every year there are wars that capture the imagination of fans for months on end. The criteria are simple: Your choice for Feud of the Year should be that one continuing series of battles—lasting at least two months—that you feel has dominated the careers of the participants to the exclusion of all other activities.

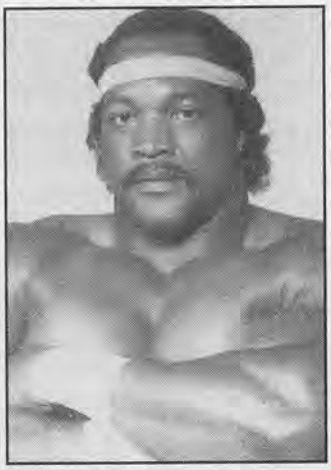
Top candidates for 1993: Tony Anthony vs. Tracey Smothers, Johnny B. Badd vs. Maxx Payne, Cactus Jack vs. Big Van Vader, Brian Christopher vs. Jeff Jarrett, Giant Gonzales vs. The Undertaker, Bret Hart vs. Jerry Lawler, Bret Hart vs. Yokozuna, "Mr. Perfect" Curt Hennig vs. Shawn Michaels, Marty Jannetty vs. Shawn Michaels, Brian Lee vs. Tracey Smothers, Money Inc. vs. Rick & Scott Steiner, Dustin Rhodes vs. Rick Rude, Sting vs. Big Van Vader.

—1992 Winner —
The Moondogs vs.
Jerry Lawler and Jeff Jarrett

INSPIRATIONAL WRESTLER OF THE YEAR

The sport of wrestling is an open arena where an athlete's personal and physical strengths and weaknesses are on display for all to see. Sometimes a wrestler may come up against a seemingly insurmountable obstacle in his career. How he deals with that roadblock, and whether he can eventually turn a failure into a success, can offer inspiration to fans everywhere.

Top candidates for 1993: Johnny B. Badd, Brutus Beefcake, Cactus Jack, Jeff Jarrett, The Kid, Lex Luger, Sting, Tatanka.

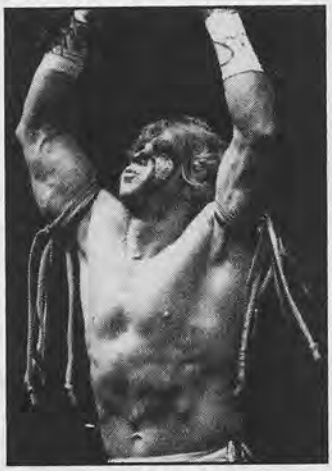


—1992 Winner—
Ron Simmons

COMEBACK OF THE YEAR

For only the second time, the PWI "Achievement Awards" are featuring this category. Here's an opportunity for you to honor a competitor who had a big year after suffering a long losing streak, being in a long period of stagnation, or being out of the sport entirely. The wrestler selected for this award must be presently active on a full-time basis.

Top candidates for 1993: Brutus Beefcake, Ric Flair, Hawk, Marty Jannetty, Lex Luger, Tommy Rich, Paul Roma, Sid Vicious, Yokozuna.



—1992 Winner—
The Ultimate Warrior

WRESTLER OF THE YEAR

This is the top honor. The winner of this award should be the one man who has personified the essence of professional wrestling throughout 1993. Talent, skill, and achievement are the three prerequisites for this category. The man chosen as Wrestler of the Year should be the most well-rounded athlete in the sport—and the most accomplished of the year.

Top candidates for 1993: Bret Hart, Ric Flair, Jerry Lawler, Brian Lee, Shawn Michaels, Dustin Rhodes, Rick Rude, Tracey Smothers, Sting, Big Van Vader, Yokozuna.

—1993 Winner—
Ric Flair

OFFICIAL FAN BALLOT

Send ballot to: ACHIEVEMENT '93 VOTE
c/o Pro Wrestling Illustrated
Box 956
Ft. Washington, PA 19034

HERE ARE MY VOTES FOR THE BEST OF 1993:

Rookie of the Year: _____
Most Improved Wrestler of the Year: _____
Most Popular Wrestler of the Year: _____
Most Hated Wrestler of the Year: _____
Inspirational Wrestler of the Year: _____
Comeback of the Year: _____
Manager of the Year: _____
Match of the Year: _____
Feud of the Year: _____
Tag Team of the Year: _____
Wrestler of the Year: _____
My "Unofficial Official" Award For 1993: _____
_____

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS: _____
_____
_____

NAME: _____ AGE: _____

STREET: _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

We welcome any and all suggestions you may have, or added nominations for "Unofficial Official" awards. Feel free to include extra remarks on an additional sheet of paper.

YOUR "UNOFFICIAL OFFICIAL" AWARD

This extra category asks you to do a little bit of creative work. We want you to come up with your own awards category and name the recipient of that award. Don't be afraid to be outlandish or ridiculous—the more creative the better! Last year, seven full pages of "Unofficial Official" awards were presented, and this year, we'll bring them back again!

Some awards from last year: Best Imitation of George Bush in Japan: The Ultimate Warrior ... Best Non-Wrestling Match: Madusa vs. Missy Hyatt at Beach Blast ... Boy Toilet: Shawn Michaels ... Dolly Parton's Rival: Abdullah the Butcher ... Hey, Kids, It's Howdy Doody Time Again!: Bob Backlund ... What He Say? What He Say?: Mr. Fuji.

If you can answer the following questions, you could be the next

$500 winner

Actual questions

Which young WCW star is known as "The Natural"?
1) Steve Austin
2) Scotty the Body
3) Dustin Rhodes
4) Robert Redford

Who portrayed Thunderlips in the film *Rocky III*?
1) Hulk Hogan
2) Lou Albano
3) Jesse Ventura
4) Rick Martel

Which of the following wrestlers is "Ravishing"?
1) Ron Ritchie
2) Dusty Rhodes
3) Rick Steamboat
4) Rick Rude

True or False: Jesse Ventura was a member of the elite Navy Seals?
1) True
2) False

How did you do?

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Wrestling Challenge Rules & Regulations
Call as often as you like. The contest begins May 1, 1993, and continues through December 31, 1993. There is no age restriction to participate. The charge for each call is $1.49 per minute. This contest is sponsored by Advanced Telecom Services and London Publishing Co. in connection with ***Pro Wrestling Illustrated.*** No purchase necessary to participate. Void in MN, NJ, LA, GA and where prohibited by law. All unclaimed prizes will be awarded via a second chance drawing. The odds of winning are dependent upon the number of entries. Complete rules and mail-in entries are available by sending a self-addressed stamped envelope to ***PWI*** **TRIVIA, P.O. Box 625, Devon, PA 19333.** To win, answer seven consecutive wrestling trivia questions correctly and you automatically qualify for the monthly drawing for one $500 winner and a weekly drawing for one winner of a one-year subscription to ***Pro Wrestling Illustrated Weekly.*** The cover price value of a one-year subscription to ***Pro Wrestling Illustrated Weekly*** is $101.40.

arena reports

The results in "Arena Reports" are culled from a month's worth of *Pro Wrestling Illustrated Weekly* newsletters. Readers of *PWI Weekly* received these results just days after the cards took place. If you would like to subscribe to *PWI Weekly*, see the ad elsewhere in this issue. If you would like to join professional wrestling's largest network of correspondents, write to: "Arena Report" c/o *Pro Wrestling Illustrated*, Box 956, Ft. Washington, PA 19034.

UNITED STATES

CALIFORNIA

ANAHEIM—WWF at The Pond: **Bastion Booger** beat **Owen Hart** ... **Randy Savage** defeated **Giant Gonzales** by disqualification ... World champion **Yokozuna** beat **Bret Hart** in a cage match ... **The Kid** defeated **Doink** ... **The Undertaker** beat **Mr. Hughes** ... World tag team champions **Rick & Scott Steiner** defeated **The Headshrinkers**.
(08-21-93)

—Gene Roy

SAN FRANCISCO—WWF at the Cow Palace: **Bastion Booger** beat **Owen Hart** ... **Randy Savage** defeated **Giant Gonzales** by disqualification ... World champion **Yokozuna** beat **Bret Hart** in a cage match ... **The Kid** defeated **Doink** ... World tag team champions **Rick & Scott Steiner** beat **The Headshrinkers** ... In a six-man elimination match, **Shawn Michaels, Bam Bam Bigelow,** & **Diesel** defeated **Curt Hennig, Marty Jannetty,** & **Tatanka.**
(08-20-93)

—Frankie Davenport

FLORIDA

TAMPA—ICWA at the Sportatorium: **The Heartbreaker** defeated **Jammin' Johnny** ... **Death Dealer** beat **Buck Quartermaine** ... **Rico Federico** & **Jim Powers** (not the WWF wrestler) defeated **Jumbo Barretta** & **Jeff Bradley** ... In a first-blood match, **Ronald J. Niemi IV** beat **Frankie Reyes** ... **Manny Fernandez** defeated **The Surgeon General** by disqualification ... **Cuban Assassin** battled **Frankie Rose** to a double-countout.
(09-02-93)

—Shannon Rose

TAMPA—ICWA at the Sportatorium: **The Surgeon General** beat **Billy Mack** to win the ICWA TV title and the Rumble Royal ... **Ronald J. Nieimi IV** defeated **Frankie Reyes** ... **Cuban Assassin** beat **Frankie Rose** to win the held-up ICWA title ... **Rick Thames** & **Sonny T** defeated **Jeff Bradley** & **Jumbo Barretta** by countout.
(08-26-93)

—Shannon Rose

FORT PIERCE—WCW at the Civic Coliseum: **Frankie Lancaster** beat **Cliff Anderson** ... **Erik Watts** beat **Chris Benoit** ... **Charlie Norris** defeated **Bobby Eaton** ...**The Nasty Boys** defeated **2 Cold Scorpio** & **Marcus Alexander Bagwell** ... In a best-of-three falls match for the held-up U.S. title, **Dustin Rhodes** won the first fall, **Rick Rude** the second fall, and Rude was disqualified in the third fall when he tossed Rhodes over the top rope ... **Sting** beat **Sid Vicious** by disqualification when **Col. Robert Parker** interfered ... NWA champion **Ric Flair** beat **Paul Orndorff.**
(08-25-93)

—Duane Long

JACKSONVILLE—WCW at the Coliseum: **Erik Watts** beat **Chris Benoit** ... **The Equalizer** defeated **Frankie Lancaster** ... **Charlie Norris** beat **Bobby Eaton** ... **The Nasty Boys** defeated **2 Cold Scorpio** & **Marcus Alexander Bagwell** ... In a best-of-three falls match for the U.S. title, **Rick Rude** beat **Dustin Rhodes** by disqualification ... **Sting** & **Davey Boy Smith** defeated **Big Van Vader** & **Sid Vicious** ... NWA champion **Ric Flair** beat **Paul Orndorff**.
(08-21-93)

—Nolan Wolf

DAYTONA BEACH—WCW "Clash of Champions XXIV" at the Ocean Center: **Arn Anderson** & **Paul Roma** beat **Steve Austin** & **Lord Steven Regal** (substituting for **Brian Pillman**) to capture the WCW/NWA tag team title; Anderson pinned Austin for the win ... **2 Cold Scorpio** pinned **Bobby Eaton** ... **Johnny B. Badd** beat **Maxx Payne** ... **Rick Steamboat** defeated **Paul Orndorff** to capture the WCW TV championship ... **Sting** & **Ric Flair** defeated **The Colossal Kongs** ... **Dustin Rhodes** & **Hawk** beat **Rick Rude** & **The Equalizer** ... World champion **Big Van Vader** beat **Davey Boy Smith** when **Harley Race** interfered.
(08-18-93)

—Thomas Goldblum

KENTUCKY

BARBOURVILLE—Smoky Mountain Wrestling at the Community Center: **Chris Comet** defeated **Dark Secret** ... **Bobby Blaze** was declared victorious over **Tony Anthony** when Anthony failed to pin Blaze in 10 minutes ... SMW champion **Brian Lee** defeated **Mongolian Stomper** ... In a hospital elimination match, **The Heavenly Bodies** beat **Scott** & **Steve Armstrong** ... **Bob Armstrong** defeated **Jim Cornette** in a cage match.
(09-04-93)

—Millicent Gillingham

MASSACHUSETTS

BOSTON—WWF at Boston Garden: **Doink the Clown** pinned **The Kid** in 7:59 ... **Razor Ramon** defeated **Irwin R. Schyster** by countout at the 8:17 mark ... **The Undertaker** pinned **Adam Bomb** in 3:08 ... World tag team champions **Rick** & **Scott Steiner** beat **The Headshrinkers** in 14:18 ... **Shawn Michaels** & **Diesel** defeated **Curt Hennig** & **Marty Jannetty** in 13:03 when Michaels pinned Jannetty ... **Tatanka** pinned **Bam Bam Bigelow** ... In a steel cage match, World champion **Yokozuna** beat **Bret Hart.**
(09-11-93)

—Ted Field

MICHIGAN

AUBURN HILLS—WWF SummerSlam '93 at The Palace of Auburn Hills: **Owen Hart** beat **Barry Horowitz** ... **Razor Ramon** pinned **Ted DiBiase** ... World tag team champions **Rick** & **Scott Steiner** defeated **The Heavenly Bodies** ... Intercontinental champion **Shawn Michaels** beat **Curt Hennig** by countout ... **Irwin R. Schyster** pinned **The Kid** ... **Jerry Lawler** defeated **Bret Hart** by reverse decision when Hart was ruled to have used excessive force with his sharpshooter ... **Ludvig Borga** beat **Marty Jannetty** ... **The Undertaker** pinned **Giant Gonzales** in a "rest in peace" match ... In a six-man tag match, **Tatanka** & **The Smokin' Gunns** defeated **The Headshrinkers** & **Bam Bam Bigelow** ... **Lex Luger** beat World champion **Yokozuna** by countout.
(08-30-93)

—Josh Green

NEW JERSEY

CHERRY HILL—Wild Women of Wrestling at Garden State Park Pavilion: ***Afternoon session*—Heidi Lee Morgan** beat **Rustee "The Foxx" Thomas** ... **Misty Blue Simmes** defeated **Nasty Angel** ... **Candi Devine** beat **Lady X** ... In a falls-count-anywhere match, **Wendi Richter** defeated **Kat LeRoux** ... **Penelope Paradise** pinned women's champion **Bambi. *Evening session*—Team America** beat **The Nasty Girls** when **Misty Blue Simmes** pinned **Nasty Angel** at 11:31 ... **Bambi** pinned **Lady X** at 13:41 ... Women's champion **Penelope Paradise** pinned **Candi Devine** at 12:35. Paradise was then challenged by **La Mascara**, who scored a pin for the title and revealed herself to be **Bambi** ... **Wendi Richter** and **Rustee "The Foxx" Thomas** battled to a double-countout ... **Bambi** won an eight-woman strap match, beating **Penelope Paradise.**
(08-28-93)

—Joe Vincent & Pete Cincotti

NEW YORK

NEW YORK—*WWF Monday Night Raw* at the Manhattan Center: **Bam Bam Bigelow** pinned **Sledgehammer McGill** ... **"Mr. Perfect" Curt Hennig** beat **Mike Bell** ... **P.J. Walker** pinned **Irwin R. Schyster** ... **The Quebecers** defeated **Rick** & **Scott Steiner** by disqualification to win the WWF World tag team title. The match was contested under "Province Of Quebec" rules, meaning the belts could change hands on a DQ ... **"Mr. Perfect" Curt Hennig** pinned **Tony DiVito** ... **Razor Ramon** defeated **The Executioner** ... **Doink the Clown** beat **Rich Myer** ... **Scott Steiner** pinned **Pierre** ... **"Macho Man" Randy Savage** & **Bret Hart** defeated WWF World champ **Yokozuna** & **Bam Bam Bigelow** by disqualification when **Mr. Fuji** interfered.
(09-13-93)

—Bryan Smith

UNIONDALE—WWF at the Nassau Coliseum: **Men On A Mission** defeated **Well Dunn** ... **Tatanka** beat **Doink the Clown** ... **Bam Bam Bigelow** defeated **Curt Hennig** by disqualification ... World tag team champions **Rick** & **Scott Steiner** beat **The Headshrinkers** ... **The Kid** defeated **Bastion Booger** ... **Razor Ramon** beat Intercontinental champion **Shawn Michaels** by disqualification ... **The Undertaker** & **Randy Savage** defeated **Giant Gonzales** & **Adam Bomb.**
(08-27-93)

—Peter Stewart

POUGHKEEPSIE—*WWF Monday Night Raw* at the Mid-Hudson Civic Center: **The Kid** beat **Ted DiBiase** by disqualification due to interference by **Irwin R. Schyster** ... **Bam Bam Bigelow** beat **Rich Myers** ... **Marty Jannetty beat Bastion Booger** ... **The Headshrinkers** beat **Mike Khoury** & **Dave Maraldo** when **Fatu** pinned Maraldo ... **Men on a Mission** beat **Mike Sharpe** & **Barry Horowitz** when **Mabel** pinned Sharpe ... Intercontinental champion **Shawn Michaels** pinned **Curt Hennig** with **Diesel's** assistance ... World champion **Yokozuna** pinned **Hacksaw Duggan** ... **Razor Ramon** beat **Blake Beverly** ... **The Smokin' Gunns** & **Tatanka** beat **Barry Horowitz, "Brooklyn Brawler" Steve Lombardi,** & **Reno Riggins** when Tatanka pinned Riggins ... **Shawn Michaels** pinned **Bob Backlund** when **Diesel** interfered ... **Marty Jannetty** pinned **Duane Gill** ... **The Undertaker** beat World champion **Yokozuna** by disqualification when Yokozuna hit Undertaker with his salt bucket ... World tag team champions **Rick** & **Scott Steiner** beat **Money Inc.** in a cage match.
(08-16-93)

—Ken & Joey Levy & Blackjack Brown

NORTH CAROLINA

LINCOLNTON—Pro Wrestling Federation at the Armory: **Russian Assassin** won an eight-man bunkhouse match, eliminating **Jeff Victory** ... Heavyweight champion **Italian Stallion** beat **Black Scorpion** ... Junior heavyweight champion **George South** defeated **Flaming Youth** ... **Cruel Connection II** beat **Russian Assassin** ... **Terry Austin** defeated **American G.I.**
(09-11-93)

—Tara Kimrey

MT. AIRY—American Independent Wrestling Federation at Beechnut Park: **Brian Danzig** pinned **Daniel Lee** ... **Jammer** pinned **Chris Windham** ... **Dynamite Doug** defeated **Chuckie Baby** by countout ... Heavyweight champion **Rick Diesel** battled **Sebastian Kane** to a double-countout ... **Koko B. Ware** pinned **Bobby Fulton.**
(09-11-93)

—Dean Puckett

BELMONT—Pro Wrestling Federation at the Armory: **Flaming Youth** won an eight-man battle royal, eliminating **Russian Assassin** ... Heavyweight champion **Italian Stallion** defeated **Austin Steele** ... Junior heavyweight champion **George South** beat **Star Ryder** ... **Black Scorpion** defeated **American G.I.** ... **Cruel Connection II** beat **Terry Austin.**
(09-10-93)

—Larry Griffith

ELKIN—PWF at the Armory: **Jeff Victory** won a 10-man battle royal, eliminating **American G.I.** ... Heavyweight champion **Italian Stallion** defeated **Austin Steele** in a "falls count anywhere" match. The fall took place on the floor, by the concession stand. Stallion had a hot dog in his mouth during the pin ... Junior heavyweight champion **George South** beat **Star Ryder** ... **Flaming Youth** beat **Terry Austin** ... **Cruel Connection II** defeated **Jeff Victory.**
(09-03-93)

—Brock Chandler

NORTH WILKESBORO—American Independent Wrestling Federation at the Armory: **Bad Bread** beat **Star Ryder** ... **Dynamite Doug** defeated **Chris Windham** ... **TNT** beat **Bad Bread** ... Heavyweight champion **Rick Diesel** defeated **Sebastian Kane** ... **Sebastian Kane** won a 12-man battle royal, eliminating **Dynamite Doug.**
(08-28-93)

—Dean Puckett

SMITHFIELD—Carolina Championship Wrestling Alliance "GloryQuest '93" at the Middle School: **Chris "Bam Bam" Stevenson** pinned **Masked Superstar** ... **Jimmy Valentine** defeated **The Dog** ... **Chuck Coats** beat **The Intruder** ... **Gulf Coast Posse** won the vacant tag team title, defeating **Steve Storm** & **Chuck Coats** (substituting for **Jimmy Cicero**) ... **Kid Vicious** pinned **Gemini Kid** to win the vacant lightweight title ... **Kahn the Warlord** pinned **The Iron Chief** to win the CCWA title, but Chief asked for and received five more minutes, got Kahn in the ring and pinned him. Both claim to be champion, and the belt has been held up.
(08-21-93)

—Elise Osborne

OREGON

PORTLAND—Championship Wrestling USA at the Interstate Pavilion: **Jim Pope** beat **Bill Sawyer** ... **Nick Danger** beat **John Rambo** by disqualification ... **Jim Pope** defeated **Dane Rush** ... **The Silver Shadow** & **Bruiser Brian** beat **Jesse Barr** & **Lou Andrews** ... **Bruiser Brian** beat **Jesse Barr** to win a 10-man battle royal.
(09-11-93)

—Kenn Jones

PENNSYLVANIA

ALLENTOWN—WWF at the Allentown Fairgrounds: **Bob Backlund** beat **Damian Demento** ... **Razor Ramon** defeated **Irwin R. Schyster** ... **The Undertaker** beat **Adam Bomb** by disqualification ... World tag team champions **Rick** & **Scott Steiner** defeated **The Headshrinkers** ... **Doink the Clown** beat **The Kid** ... **Razor Ramon** & **Tatanka** defeated **Shawn Michaels** & **Diesel** ... In a cage match, World champion **Yokozuna** beat **Bret Hart.**
(09-06-93)

—Joel Stabler

TENNESSEE

KNOXVILLE—Smoky Mountain Wrestling at the Civic Coliseum: **The Bruise Brothers** beat **Scott** & **Brian Armstrong** ... **Tim Horner** defeated **Chris Candido** ... **The Heavenly Bodies** beat tag team champions **The Rock 'n' Roll Express** by disqualification ... Heavyweight champion **Brian Lee** pinned **Tracey Smothers** ... **Terry Funk** pinned **Bob Armstrong**, thus making **Jim Cornette** SMW commissioner.
(09-12-93)

—Bill Needham

MORRISTOWN—Smoky Mountain Wrestling at the High School: **Tom Prichard** beat **Brian Armstrong** ... **Scott Armstrong** defeated **Jim Del Rey** by disqualification ...

Bob Armstrong beat **Tony Anthony** ... Heavyweight champion **Brian Lee** defeated **Tim Horner** ... **The Rock 'n' Roll Express** beat tag team champions **The Bruise Brothers** to capture the championship. Had they been beaten, the Express would have lost their hair.
(09-11-93)

—Ron Donnelly

MARYVILLE—All State Wrestling at the ASW Arena: **Rick Conners** & **Charles Long** beat **Jumpin' Jeff Gann** & **Steve Idol** as Long pinned Gann ... **Carl Stiles** beat **Darrell Monroe** ... **Randy Steel** wrestled **Steve Flynn** to a double-countout ... Tag team champions **Keith Hart** & **Regulator Steel** defeated **Mike Powers** & **Charlie Long** as Hart pinned Powers ... **The Black Assassin** & **Regulator Stone** beat **Jerry Manuel** & **Ricky Dye** as Assassin pinned Manuel.
(09-09-93)

—Bill Needham

MEMPHIS—USWA at the Mid-South Coliseum: **Colin Scotts** beat **Reggie B. Fine** ... **Jeff Gaylord** defeated **Tony Falk** ... **American Eagle, Miss Texas,** & **Jeff Gaylord** beat **PG-13** & **Black Pussycat** ... **The Moondogs** beat USWA tag team champions **The Dogcatchers** ... **Mike Anthony** defeated **Billy,** substituting for **Brian Christopher,** who felt sick before match time. After the pin, Christopher entered the ring and beat up Anthony, who made a comeback and chased them from the ring ... USWA champion **Jerry Lawler** beat **Giant Gonzales** by disqualification when **The Dogcatchers** interfered ... Southern champion **Jeff Jarrett** fought to a no-contest against **Tommy Rich.**
(09-06-93)

—Mark Mitchell

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MARYVILLE—All-State Wrestling at the ASW Arena: **"Jumpin'" Jeff Gann** beat **Rick Conners** ... **Night Rider** pinned **Jerry Manuel** ... **The Black Assassin** & **Regulator Stone** defeated **Steve Idol** & **Darrell Munrow** ... **Karl Stiles** wrestled **Lynn Montana** to a double-disqualification ... Tag team champions **Keith Hart** & **Regulator Steel** beat **Randy Steel** & **Charles Long** ... **Sweet Tony T.** pinned **Steve Flynn.**
(09-02-93)

—Bill Needham

MEMPHIS—USWA at the Mid-South Coliseum: **Jeff Gaylord** beat **Colin Scotts** ... **J.C. Ice** defeated **The American Eagle** ... **Mike Anthony** defeated **Wolfie D** ... **Brute Forcz** defeated **Johnny West** & **Randy Rocket** ... **Miss Texas** beat **The Black Pussycat** ... **Giant Gonzales** beat **Vampire Warrior** ... Southern champion **Jeff Jarrett** beat **Owen Hart** ... Tag team champions **The Dogcatchers** defeated **The Moondogs** when **Dogcatcher II** pinned **Spike** ... In a loser-leaves-town match, **Brian Christopher** beat **Chris Adams** ... USWA champion **Jerry Lawler** beat **Bret Hart** in a cage match.
(08-29-93)

—Mark Mitchell

MARYVILLE—All State Wrestling at the Junction: **Charles Long** beat **The Ragin' Rebel** ... **The Black Assassin** pinned **"Jumping" Jeff Gann** ... **Night Rider** and **Lynn Montana** wrestled to a double-disqualification ... In a six-man tag team trophy match, **Rick Conners, Mike Powers,** & **Tony Maroca** defeated **Bobby B, Jerry Manuel,** & **Steve Idle** when Conners pinned Bobby B ... **Regulator Steel** & **Keith Hart** defeated **Sweet Emotions (Sweet Tony T** & **Regulator Stone**) in the finals of the tag team tournament.
(08-26-93)

—Bill Needham

LENOIR CITY—Southern Wrestling Association at the Memorial Building: **"Crazy" Bobby B** and **"Jumping" Jeff Gann** wrestled to a 10-minute, time-limit draw ... **Tennessee Equalizer** beat the **Raging Rebel** ... **Bam Bam Christian** pinned **The Thriller** ... **Steve Idol** beat **Tennessee Equalizer** ... SWA tag team champions **Rick Conners** & **Mike Powers** defeated **Steve Flynn** & **Bobby B** when Powers pinned Flynn.
(08-21-93)

—Bill Needham

KNOXVILLE—Smoky Mountain Wrestling "K-Town Showdown" at the Civic Coliseum: **Bobby Blaze** won a 10-minute match against **Tony Anthony,** who had to pay him $1,000 for wrestling without being pinned within the 10-minute time limit ... **Tim Horner** beat **Chris Candido** in a diaper match ... SMW heavyweight champion **Brian Lee** pinned **Mongolian Stomper** with the help of his feet on the ring ropes ... **Big Bossman** defeated **Kevin Sullivan** ... In an eight-man tag elimination match among **Steve & Scott Armstrong, The Rock 'n' Roll Express, The Bruise Brothers,** & **The Heavenly Bodies,** the Armstrongs and Bruises were eliminated and **Robert Gibson** pinned **Jimmy Del Ray** for the win ... **Bob Armstrong** pinned **Jim Cornette.**
(08-20-93)

—Bill Needham

KINGSPORT—WCW at the Armory: **Yoshi Kwan** beat **Brad Armstrong** ... **Mark Starr** defeated **Dick Slater** ... TV champion **Rick Steamboat** beat **Lord Steven Regal** ... World tag team champions **Arn Anderson** & **Paul Roma** defeated **Tex Slazenger** & **Shanghai Pierce** ... **Johnny B. Badd** beat **Maxx Payne** ... In a non-title match, **Sting** defeated **Big Van Vader** ... NWA champion **Ric Flair** beat **Sid Vicious** by disqualification.
(08-19-93)

—Brian Bradford

MEMPHIS—USWA at the Mid-South Coliseum: **Mustafa Ali** beat **Randy Rockett** ... **Tony Falk** beat **Colin Scotts** ... **The American Eagles** defeated **Tony Falk** & **Wolfie D.** ... **The Rock 'n' Roll Phantom** beat **Scott Taylor** ... Southern champion **Vampire Warrior** beat **Super Mario** ... **The Dogcatchers** beat **The Moondogs** for the USWA tag team belts ... **Chris Adams** & **Miss Texas** beat **Brian Christopher** & **Miss Simpson (Toni Adams)** ... **Bret** & **Owen Hart** beat **Jerry Lawler** & **Jeff Jarrett.**
(08-16-93)

—Mark Mitchell

TEXAS

DALLAS—Global Wrestling Federation at the Sportatorium: **John Hawk** beat **Plowboy Wilbur** ... **The Lumberjack** defeated **Moadib** by disqualification ... **Chaz Taylor** & **Steven Dane** beat **Guido Falcone** & **Alex Porteau** to win the tag team title ... **Rod Price** defeated **Al Perez** by disqualification ... **Action Jackson** beat **Crusher Kong** by countout ... **Iceman Parsons** defeated **Chris Adams** to win the held-up heavyweight title ... **Tim Brooks** & **Black Bart** beat **The Gladiator** & **Mike Davis.**
(09-03-93)

—Julio Hernandez

VIRGINIA

COUNCIL—Smoky Mountain Wrestling at the High School: **Tony Anthony** beat **Bobby Blaze** ... SMW champion **Brian Lee** defeated **Tim Horner** ... **The Rock 'n' Roll Express** beat tag team champions **The Bruise Brothers** by disqualification ... **Scott** & **Steve Armstrong** defeated **The Heavenly Bodies** ... **Tim Horner** won a battle royal.
(09-03-93)

—Randall Wallace

WEST VIRGINIA

BLUEFIELD—WCW at the Brushfork Armory: **Tommy Angel** defeated **Joe Cruz** ... **Kent** & **Keith Cole** beat **George South** & **Italian Stallion** ... **Dick Slater** defeated **Mark Starr** ... **Yoshi Kwan** beat **Brad Armstrong** ... **Rick Steamboat** defeated **Lord Steven Regal** ... World tag team champions **Arn Anderson** & **Paul Roma** beat **Tex Slazenger** & **Shanghai Pierce** ... In a cage match, **Johnny B. Badd** defeated **Maxx Payne.**
(08-20-93)

—Thom Russell

INTERNATIONAL

CANADA

NEW WESTMINSTER, BRITISH COLUMBIA—West Coast Championship Wrestling at The Royal Towers Hotel & Casino: **The Bushwhackers** defeated **Col. DeBeers** & **Buddy Rose** when **Luke Williams** pinned Rose ... **Billy Two Eagles** beat **Michele Starr** by disqualification ... **Velvet McIntyre** beat **The Iron Maiden** by pinfall ... **Johnny Canuck** defeated **Buddy Wayne** ... **Diamond Timothy Flowers** beat **Rocky Della Serra** ... **Mike Roselli** beat **Ole Olsen.**
(09-12-93)

—Stuart Kemp

CLOVERDALE, BRITISH COLUMBIA—West Coast Championship Wrestling at the Arena: **Rocky Della Serra** fought to a draw with **Mike Roselli** ... **Diamond Timothy Flowers** beat **Ole Olsen** by countout ... **Billy Two Eagles** beat **Buddy Wayne** ... **The Iron Maiden** beat **Velvet McIntyre** by disqualification ... **Col. DeBeers** beat **The Mighty Quinn** ... **The Bushwhackers** beat **Michele Starr** & **Buddy Rose** by disqualification when **Col. DeBeers** interfered.
(09-11-93)

—Stuart Kemp

PALMERTON, ONTARIO—Teen Pro Wrestling at the High School: In a midget match, **Chris Walker** beat **Frenchy Lamont** ... **Fire Fox** defeated **Mervin Pugwash** ... **Davey Dalton** beat **Jake Steele** ... **Kevin McKenzie** defeated **Bill Scullion** ... **Farmer Pete** beat **Frenchy Lamont** ... **Kevin McKenzie** won a battle royal.
(09-11-93)

—Paul Stewart

JAPAN

TOKYO—All-Japan at Budokan Hall: **Takao Omori** beat **Mighty Inoue** ... **Abdullah the Butcher** & **Giant Kamala II** defeated **Thunder** & **Lightning** ... **Dan Kroffat** & **Doug Furnas** beat **Tracey Smothers** & **The Eagle** ... **Giant Baba**, **Rusher Kimura**, & **Mitsuo Momota** beat **Ryuma Izumida, Haruka Eigen,** & **Joel Deaton** ... **Jun Akiyama, Tsuyoshi Kikuchi,** & **Satoru Asako** defeated **Masa Fuchi, Yoshimari Ogawa,** & **Masao Inoue** ... **Kenta Kobashi** beat **The Patriot** ... **Stan Hansen** & **Ted DiBiase** beat **Toshiaki Kawada** & **Akira Taue** to win the Pacific Wrestling Federation World and International tag team titles ... In a triple-crown match, **Mitsuharu Misawa** defeated **Steve Williams.**
(09-03-93)

—Koichi Yoshizawa

SAPPORO—FMW at the Olympic Hall: **Tanaka** beat **Mr. Chin** ... **Great Punk** defeated **Masked Cockroach II** ... **Sabu** beat **Ricky Fuji** ... **Onita Jr.** beat **Masked Cockroach I** ... **Bull Nakano** defeated **Yukie Nabeno** ... In a street-fight double-stretcher match, **The Gladiator** & **Big Titan** beat **Koji Nakagawa** & **Mr. Gannosuke** ... **Leon Spinks** defeated **Sambo Asako** ... **Combat Toyota** beat **Megumi Kudo** for the WWA women's title ... In a no-rope, barbed-wire, tornado street-fight death match, **Atsushi Onita** & **Tarzan Goto** defeated **The Sheik** & **Mr. Pogo.**
(09-01-93)

—Koichi Yoshizawa

AOMORI—FMW at Nippon Hall: **Sabu** & **Masked Cockroach I** beat **Tanaka** & **Koji Nakagawa** ... **Nurse Nakamura** defeated **Tsuppari Mack** ... **The Sheik** and **Big Titan** fought to a double-countout ... **Leon Spinks** beat **Mr. Gannosuke** ... **Crusher Maedomari**, **Shark Tsuchiya,** & **Combat Toyota** defeated **Yukie Nabeno, Miwa Sato,** & **Megumi Kudo** ... **The Gladiator** & **Ricky Fuji** beat **Onita Jr.** & **Tarzan Goto** ... In a no-rope, barbed-wire, street-fight tornado death match, **Mr. Pogo** & **Great Punk** beat **Atsushi Onita** & **Sambo Asako.**
(08-31-93)

—Koichi Yoshizawa

TOKYO—All-Japan Pro Wrestling at Korakuen Hall: **Mitsuo Momota** pinned **Takao Ohtari** ... **Mighty Inoue** pinned **Masao Inoue** ... **Yoshinari Ogawa, Rusher Kimura,** & **Giant Baba** beat **Ryukaku Izumida, Haruka Eigen,** & **Joel Deaton** ... **Kamala II** & **Abdullah the Butcher** beat **Thunder** & **Lightning** ... **The Eagle** & **The Patriot** beat **Steve Williams** & **Tracey Smothers** ... **Dan Kroffat** & **Doug Furnas** defeated **Satoru Asaka** & **Kenta Kobashi** ... **Masanobu Fuchi, Toshiaki Kawada,** & **Akira Taue** beat **Jun Akiyama, Tsuyoshi Kikuchi,** & **Mitsuharu Misawa.**
(08-20-93)

—Koichi Yoshizawa

THIS MONTH IN HISTORY
NOVEMBER

MISSOURI

ST. LOUIS—NWA at Kiel Auditorium: **Tommy Martin** & **Dewey Robertson** defeated **Ron McFarlane** & **Jerry Brown** in two-out-of-three falls ... **"Bulldog" Bob Brown** pinned **Gene Lewis** at 12:41 ... **Pat O'Connor** pinned **Ox Baker** at 10:44 ... **Sgt. Slaughter** battled **Dick the Bruiser** to a double-disqualification when both shoved referee **Joe Tangaro** at 9:01 ... **Kerry Von Erich** pinned **Greg Valentine** at 14:44 ... **Harley Race** pinned **Rocky Johnson** at 14:48.
(11-06-81)

—Mary Rhoda Headrick

NEW YORK

BUFFALO—At the Memorial Auditorium: **Larry Moquin** pinned **Tiger Joe Marsh** at 14:36 ... **Suni War Cloud** and **Steve "Mr. America" Stanlee** battled to a 20-minute draw ... **Lucky Simonuvich** pinned **Howard Cantonwine** at 9:39 ... **Danny "The Walk" McShain** pinned **Sandor Kovacs** at 25:32 ... **Gorgeous George** pinned **Dizzy Davis** at 28:03.
(11-17-50)

—Ray Ryan

YONKERS—At the Columbus Sporting Club: **Tommy Catalino** defeated **Willie Davis** ... **Joe "Toots" Mondt** battled **Babe Caddock** to a draw ... **Sammy Stein** pinned **Vanka Zelezniak** at 23:57 ... **Dr. Ralph Wilson** pinned **Benny Ginsberg** at 19:08 ... World heavyweight champion **Jim Londos** pinned **Justino Giraldi** at 19:26.
(11-12-31)

—Paul Cannon

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Sid Vicious

(Continued from page 21)

Harley Race, Vader and Vicious never got a shot at the tag team title.

Vicious needs a title to reaffirm his dominance and silence the critics. Throughout his career, they've claimed he's nothing more than an overrated weight-room creation. Yes, the U.S. belt would certainly look good around his waist. But when Parker moved toward "Stunning" Steve, Sid was simply stunned.

"What is he doing? Your guess is as good as mine," Sid said when cornered on the issue; the veins in his head and neck were beginning to bulge. "It looks like he's overlooking his meal ticket and trying to destroy the two best tag teams in the federation, if you ask me. All I know is that I'm the one who should be getting the shot at Rhodes, not Steve Austin."

Parker professes innocence, maintaining he's not trying to undermine Sid's career. He claims he is simply trying to enlarge his stable by adding a talented wrestler.

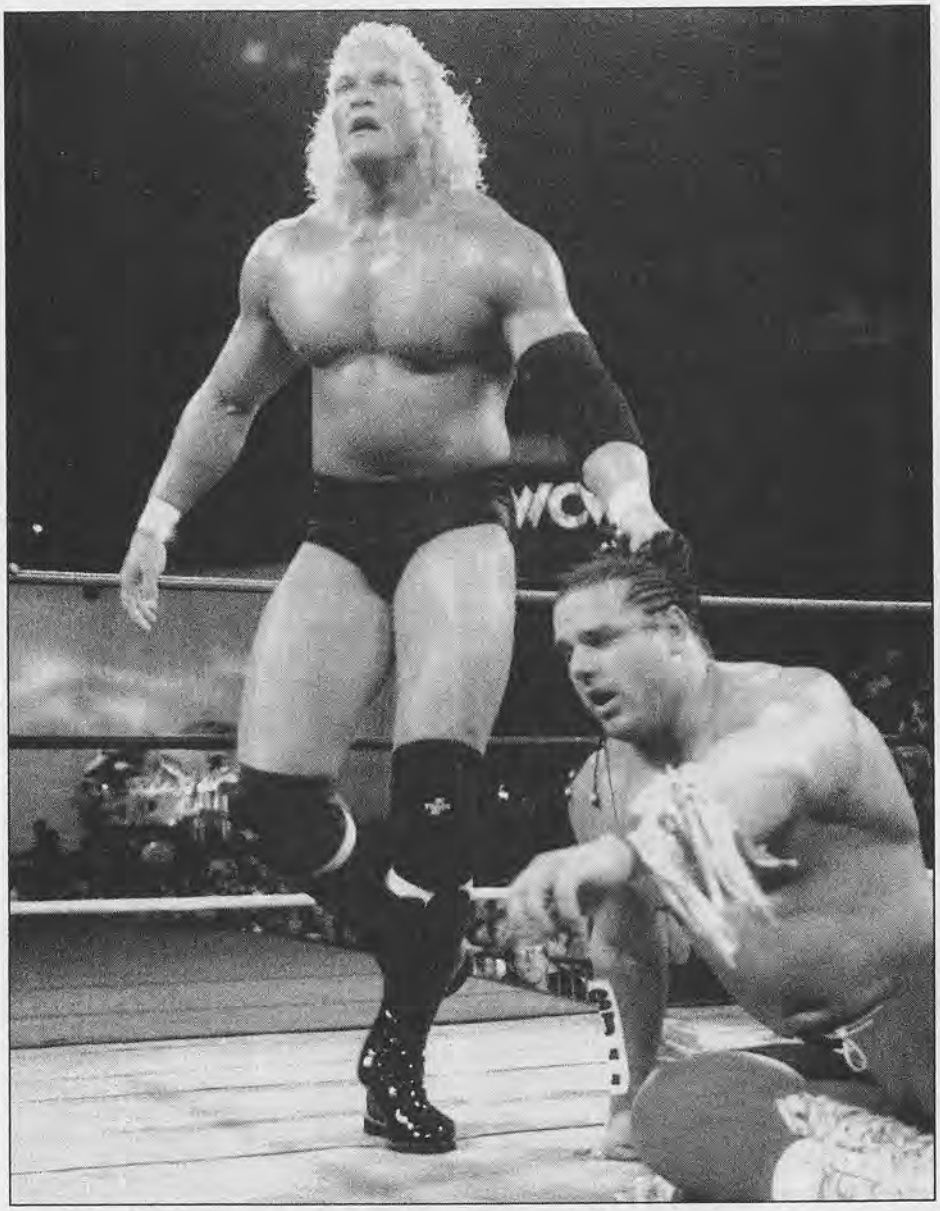
"Steve Austin is one of the best wrestlers in WCW," argued Parker. "He held the TV title for nearly a year and won the tag team title almost immediately after pairing with Pillman. Judging from his experience with The Dangerous Alliance, he works well with others and is able to put his ego aside, a quality certain unnamed wrestlers don't possess. Anyone who doesn't want Steve Austin on his side is a fool."

A fool and his manager are soon parted, as Vicious well knows. During his first tour of duty in WCW, he teamed with Dan Spivey to form The Skyscrapers. When Vicious was sidelined with a punctured lung, manager Long replaced him with "Mean" Mark Callous. Once Vicious was able to return, Long wasn't ready to break up his new duo. The disagreement led to Sid's departure from WCW.

Vicious moved to the WWF, where he became Sid Justice, a fan favorite and a protege of World champion Hulk Hogan. However, Sid grew tired of playing second banana to the "Hulkster" and turned on him. Wippleman quickly signed him and scheduled a series of Justice-Hogan matches. Sid was embarrassed at WrestleMania VIII in 1992 and abandoned by Wippleman. Again, he left the federation.

Sid knows leaving is no longer an option, unless he wants to be known as a quitter. He's all but ruled out remaining with Parker. However, one option he could turn to would release him from the grasp of a mercurial manager and land a title shot at the same time. It's a place he's been before.

If Vicious wants to realize his potential, he must become a fan favorite.



Vicious battles Davey Boy Smith during Beach Blast this past July. Smith, a former WWF competitor, is acquainted with Vicious from his fan favorite days, and no doubt could discern whether his change from rulebreaking would be genuine.

Ric Flair also has some WWF familiarity with Vicious. The "Nature Boy" has evolved into fan favorite in WCW, and would now be an ally of a transformed Sid.

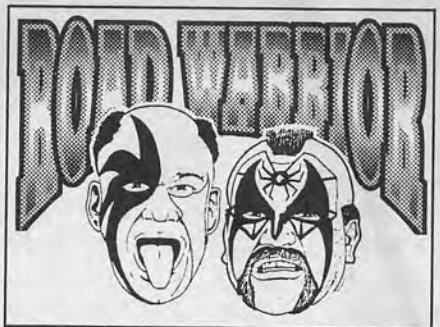
The reasons are threefold. First, he would rid himself of Parker and could satisfy his own agenda. Second, that agenda would certainly include World title shots against Vader. And third, he has been most successful as a fan favorite, nearly winning the WWF World title at the 1992 Royal Rumble.

The timing couldn't be better, either. Parker is immersed in negotiations with Austin, and the initial terror of The Masters of the Power Bomb has subsided. Besides, Sid has never been good at sharing the spotlight.

Were Vicious to change locker rooms, there would also be a swing in the balance of power between WCW rulebreakers and fan favorites. The rulebreakers were dominating the federation earlier this year, holding all but one of the major titles. The fan favorites had battled back, with Ric Flair winning the NWA title, Rick Steamboat the TV belt, Rhodes the U.S. title, and Arn Anderson and Paul Roma the tag team championship. Adding Vicious would pose a serious threat to Vader, and could give the fan favorites a title monopoly.

"It would take some getting used to," said Sting, who has been able to hold his own against the bigger Vicious in tag team matches. "If there's one thing I've learned in wrestling, it's that you have to be careful about who you trust. Perhaps Davey Boy [Smith] can tell me from his WWF experience with Sid whether he's trustworthy. But there's definitely some upside potential if he changes."

For now, Vicious just smiles and says nothing when the possibility of becoming a fan favorite is raised. You can tell it's an option that has already crossed his mind. If his relationship with Parker continues to deteriorate, it may be his only option. □



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Nasty Boys

(Continued from page 31)

3

Before leaving our hometown of Allentown, Pennsylvania, for a tour, we shut off the power to our parents' refrigerators. Spoiled all the meat we were never going to get a chance to eat anyway. Hope they enjoyed being vegetarians! Mom was eating mashed potatoes for weeks.

4

One time we beat the heck out of Jimmy Hart. Yeah, we really showed him who's boss. The yapper was getting a little too big on the "Mouth Of The South," so we gave that mouth a fat lip and gave him a coupla

We got Jimmy Hart, the "Mouth Of The South," to shut up. Made a lot of friends in the process, too. If we'd kicked him just a little lower, he'd be singing in boys' choirs today! We should have!

kicks down south, where it hurts real good. Think we might've caused some brain damage.

5

Another time we were walking down West 34th Street in Manhattan. It was late at night, about 2 a.m., and some homeless bum was lying against the Empire State Building.

"Yo," Jerry said. "What do you think you're doing lying there? If you wanna hang around this building, get a job inside!"

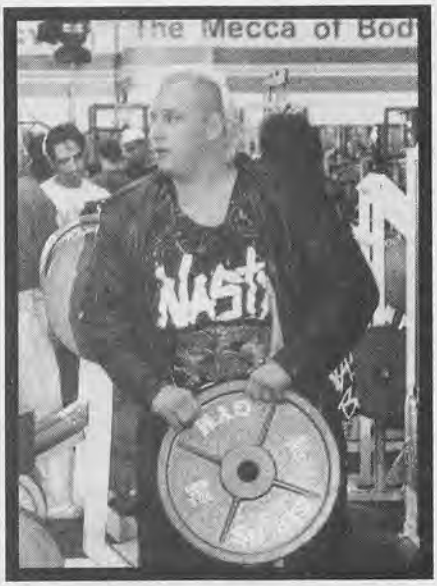
It appeared the bum needed some incentive. So we grabbed him by the beard, threw him out of his cardboard box and onto the sidewalk, and lit a match to the box, clothes and all. Everything that smelly guy had went up in smoke, and we heard him mutter something about seeing an employment agency next morning. New clothes? He probably got them at one of those cheap dollar stores nearby.

Nasty enough for ya? Well, try this one.

6

We were in a gym in California when some stupid, pretty-boy musclehead asked one of us to spot him on the bench press. Brian said, "Yeah, I'll do it."

He did it, all right. The guy couldn't bench 400 and just when he was about to give up, we walked away and left 400 pounds slamming down on his chest.



If you see us working out in a gym, leave us alone. Otherwise, the weight of the whole world may come crashing down on you—and we literally mean it!

Man, you shoulda heard that guy scream. It was something!

7

Jerry talking. This was a long time ago. I was 11, living in Allentown, and my mother told me I had to do one good deed every day. I wasn't gonna have none of that. So this one day, my good deed was to help a little old lady across the street. I got her across safely, then pushed her into a small pool of standing water on the corner. Sir Walter Raleigh in reverse, you might say.

8

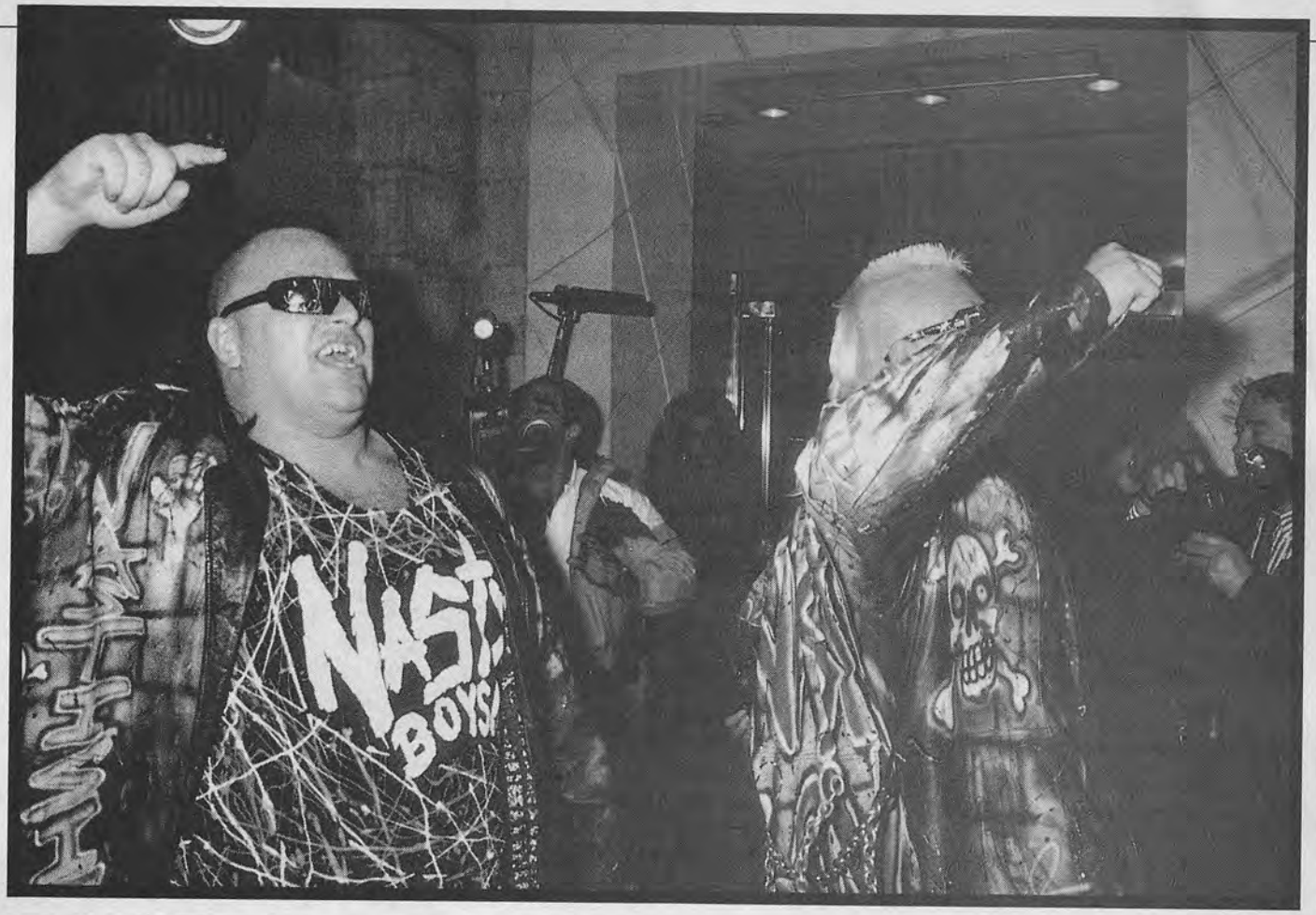
The other day we went through the drive-thru at one of those hamburger joints. Ordered enough food for about 12 hungry wrestlers, all with special instructions, waited until the food was ready, and then drove away. This little, fat blonde number was caught holding the bags. Sure it wasn't the first time! Would've been great if they took it out of her pay.

9

Nothing we like more than hanging out in a good bar, slamming down a few brews, and shooting darts. If we get into trouble, fine. We know how to handle ourselves. The best is when we go into those dance clubs just to start trouble. Once we went in there smelling from four days of wrestling, cleared the dance floors, and stole all the girls. That's what nasty is all about.

10

Brian here. Sometimes fans make the mistake of asking us for autographs. We never say no. One time a little kid came up to us with one of those WCW satin jackets. He had it signed by all the wrestlers and needed us, naturally. He hands it to me, and I pull out my pen with the exploding ink and mess up the

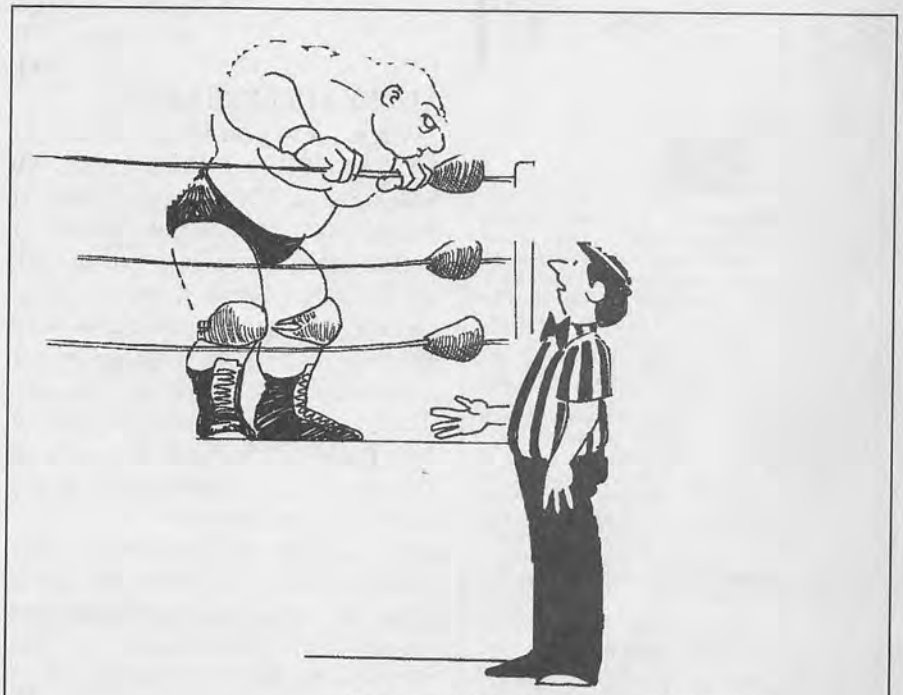


We visited the famed Planet Hollywood in Manhattan one night, and chased those wimpy co-owners Bruce Willis, Arnold Schwarzenegger, and Sylvester Stallone out of their own joint! But Demi Moore, Maria Shriver, and Sly's date that evening agreed to stay behind. Guess they wanted to see what *real* men were all about.

Brian signs an autograph in a hotel lobby. If that kid in the wheelchair knew what we had planned for him, he'd immediately turn it on and race away!

whole jacket. Some of the ink got on the kid, too. The little squirt (yeah, that was a pun) probably had to bathe for a whole week!

So those are the 10 nastiest *legal* things we've ever done. There're a couple of illegal things, too, but we won't talk about that. Maybe one time in a magazine that has some more guts. □



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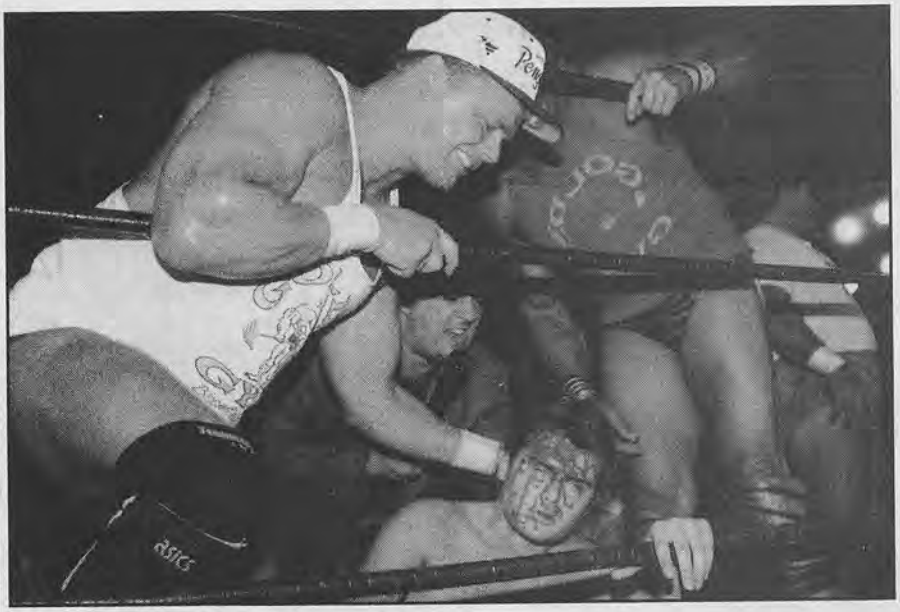
between falls

(Continued from page 5)



Shane Douglas pounds Kevin Christopher into the rope during an ECW card. Becoming a rulebreaker will benefit Douglas in the long run, stated Carrie Haynes on the "Hotline."

get his men the matches they need. Soon Douglas will be a much better wrestler than his old partner Steamboat could ever hope to be.

CARRIE HAYNES
Wilmington, DE

LOUSY RULEBREAKERS

When I read your story "Frozen Out Of The WWF Title Picture: 10 Rulebreakers Who Deserve A Shot At Yokozuna" (November 1993), I couldn't believe you were actually calling for Adam Bomb, Giant Gonzales, and Papa Shango to receive title shots. Bomb looks very intimidating against prelim bums, but when he steps into the ring with someone with the skills of Bob Backlund, he loses. Just because Gonzales is 7'7" doesn't mean he is a championship contender. He's hopeless. And Shango has proven many times that his USWA title win was a fluke. I'll agree some rulebreakers are being unfairly cheated out of title shots, but some just don't deserve them at all.

RODNEY WILKINS
Grand Rapids, MI □

Give Papa Shango a title shot against Yokozuna? No way, says reader Rodney Wilkins, who claims Shango's USWA title reign earlier this year was a fluke.

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from the desk of...

(Continued from page 8)

love for wrestling would take me this far—or this far from New York—but I'm glad it has.

Cornette, however, has a different agenda. Although he had devoured Smoky Mountain Wrestling the way Yokozuna or Vader would tear through a preliminary opponent, he is not finished. As far as the "Louisville Slugger" is concerned, his ascent is just beginning.

Earlier this year, Cornette showed up in WCW, talking trash to Vice President Bill Watts and anyone else who would listen. Although his Heavenly Bodies never won the tag team title, Cornette and his men made their presence felt.

Don't let that innocent look fool you; the mind of Jim Cornette is always working—and it's always planning evil. It may be devious enough to rule three federations.

Then it was on to the WWF, where Jimmy Del Ray and Tom Prichard took on tag team champions Rick and Scott Steiner at SummerSlam '93. Although they did not win, Cornette and his merry men stole the tag team belts. Cornette also managed to make a few friends during his stay, in particular a large sumo master with an appetite for destruction.

But his biggest coup came in his own federation, where he usurped authority from former SMW Commissioner Bob Armstrong. Cornette somehow got the overmatched Armstrong to agree to a match against the despicable Terry Funk, with the promotion's vacant commissionership on the line. The results were predictable, with a handful of wrestlers joining the fray on both sides. In the ensuing mayhem, Funk pinned Armstrong to give Cornette his cherished position.

But that wasn't enough for Cornette, who obviously wants total autonomous control of Smoky Mountain. He scheduled a loser-leaves-SMW match with Armstrong, with Cornette being represented by a mystery opponent.

"No, I'm not telling you who it is!" Cornette boomed, forcing me to move the receiver away from my ear. "Then it wouldn't be a mystery!"

When I asked if it would be Yokozuna, Cornette turned taciturn.

"No comment," he said slyly.

It's obvious that Cornette's reign of terror is just beginning. Could his newfound friendship with Yokozuna mean that he is angling to assume managerial control of the WWF champion? After brushing aside Armstrong, Cornette couldn't possibly fear Fuji, who may be destined to become just another pawn in the game.

Even if Cornette were to become Yokozuna's manager, I can't envision him stopping there. The man has an insatiable lust for power and control. He used his position as SMW's most influential manager to gain the commissionership of that federation. What's to stop him from doing the same in the WWF?

If Cornette is going to move on McMahon, he couldn't have picked a better time. The WWF head is embroiled in a bitter feud with Jerry Lawler that could see him enter the ring as a wrestler for the first time. The last thing on McMahon's mind is Jim Cornette's potential agenda.

If WCW thinks that Cornette is simply a problem for other federations, it better think again. A "new" NWA is forming, and word is that Cornette has applied for membership on its five-person board of directors. WCW would find itself in direct competition with a new NWA, and with Cornette calling some of the shots, even Turner is no longer safe.

The fact is, no one is safe from the wrath of Jim Cornette. If his perceived plans are played out to perfection, he could be commissioner of SMW, head of the WWF, and a board director of the NWA. And with a stable of efficient wrestlers still under his thumb, the next title change might not take place until the 21st century. □

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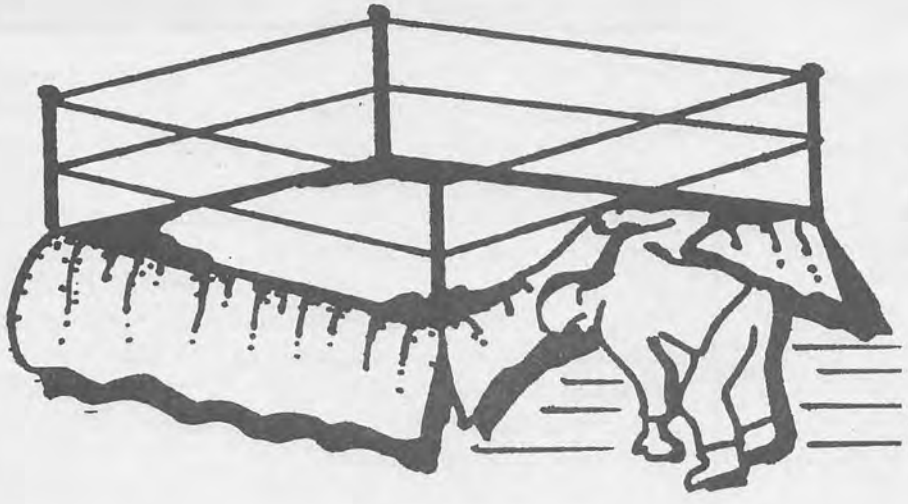

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win, lose, or draw

(Continued from page 12)

People wondered if Cactus Jack would still be intense several months after his infamous assault at the hands of Big Van Vader. The maniacal Jack showed the answer was yes.

WCW's Clash of the Champions spectaculars. All that's missing now is Dr. Elias Ghanem at ringside.

The return of The Road Warriors. When Hawk and Animal split up, no one expected them to stay apart for long. Then Hawk hooked up with Kensuke Sasaki in Japan to form The Hell Raisers and it looked like the Warriors were done. But they weren't. Nevertheless, Hawk and Animal can never dominate the way they did in the '80s.

"Thunderblood" Charlie Norris. After several years as a top independent star, the talented Native American came to WCW and immediately established himself among the elite. Harley Race, Vader's manager, is scrambling to find videotape of Norris' pre-WCW bouts.

Cactus Jack. For a while, it seemed as though he was lost at sea. When he returned to the scene at last August's Clash of the Champions, Jack demonstrated that he hadn't lost any of his maniacal intensity. He still takes too many risks, but if he didn't, he wouldn't be Cactus Jack.

Wild Women of Wrestling. Women's grappling hasn't been too visible in the U.S. the past few years, but stars like Wendi Richter, Misty Blue Simmes, Bambi, and Heidi Lee Morgan refuse to be discouraged by the lack of attention. There is hope, though. In the USWA, Luna Vachon vs. Miss Texas approaches main-event status, and Luna has been battling Madusa Miceli in the Caribbean-based WWC.

The Rock 'n' Roll Express. When Rick Morton and Robert Gibson got back together, a lot of folks (including this columnist) didn't think they'd ever recapture their championship form. Nearly a year after their reunion, the Rock 'n' Rolls' ring skills are dazzling. They recently added more gold to their collection, defeating The Bruise Brothers for the important Smoky Mountain tag team title.

Japan's FMW. It has the always-unpredictable Sabu, and former world heavyweight boxing champion Leon Spinks. It also has competitors who agree to face off in something called a no-rope, barbed-wire, tornado street-fight death match. This is the best part: Its chief practitioner is The Sheik, who is 68 years old!

Ted DiBiase. After his success with Money Inc., the "Million-Dollar Man" may have been expected to take a break from tag teaming. Instead, he traveled to Japan—only days after losing to Razor Ramon at SummerSlam—and hooked up with Stan Hansen. They promptly won the PWF and All-Japan tag belts. Hansen and Terry Gordy were one of the greatest American teams ever in Japan, but Hansen/DiBiase has the potential to be greater.

Tommy Rich hadn't been heard from much in recent years. However, the former NWA champ came back with a vengeance recently, dethroning Jeff Jarrett for the USWA Southern belt.

Tommy Rich. A decade ago, the former NWA World champion was at the height of his popularity when he made a sudden turn-around, telling his fans to "go to hell." In 1993, the feelings between Rich and the public are not as intense, but he is equally determined to prove himself. The rulebreaker went back to the USWA, seeking Jeff Jarrett's Southern title. And he got it! "Wildfire" is burning brightly again.

AAA. This Mexican-based federation amazingly drew 17,000 fans to the Sports Arena in Los Angeles, and turned away several thousand more. Jake "The Snake" Roberts showed up and discovered what a fine wrestler Konnan is. Roberts insisted his disqualification loss was a fluke. Those in the know insist he simply lost to the better man. □

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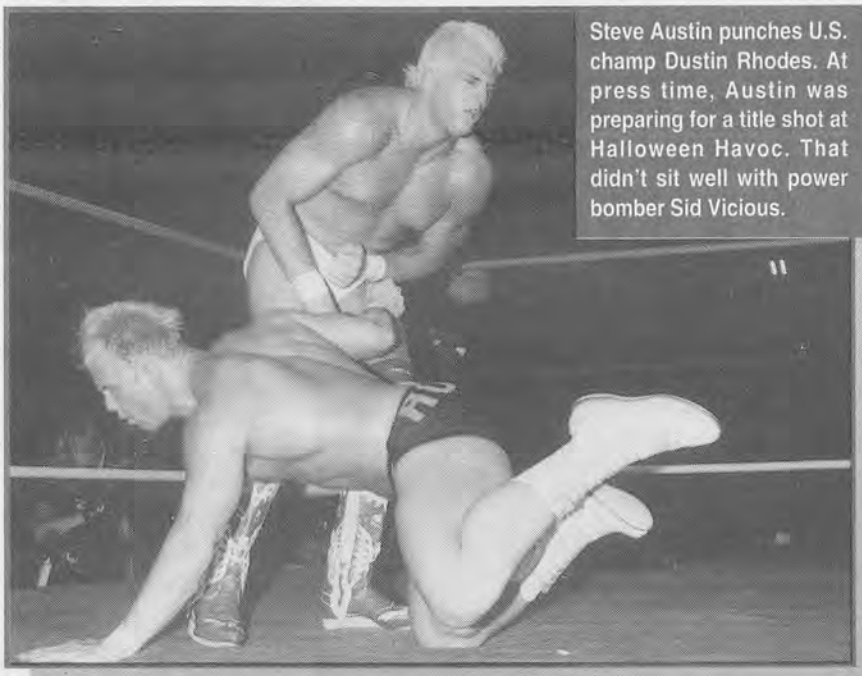
(Continued from page 7)

hungry for the World title. Vicious may try to beat him to the punch.

Speaking of Pillman, his injury forced Austin to use **Lord Steven Regal** as a tag team partner in their World title match with **Arn Anderson** and **Paul Roma.** Their inexperience as a team may have helped the Horsemen capture the belts.

Regal, incidentally, is having as much luck gaining the TV title for the Queen of England as the British used to have in the America's Cup. He's been unable to beat then-champ **Paul Orndorff** or current beltholder **Rick Steamboat**. A tip to Lord Steven: **Princess Di**, even **Fergie,** might be a much better inspiration for you.



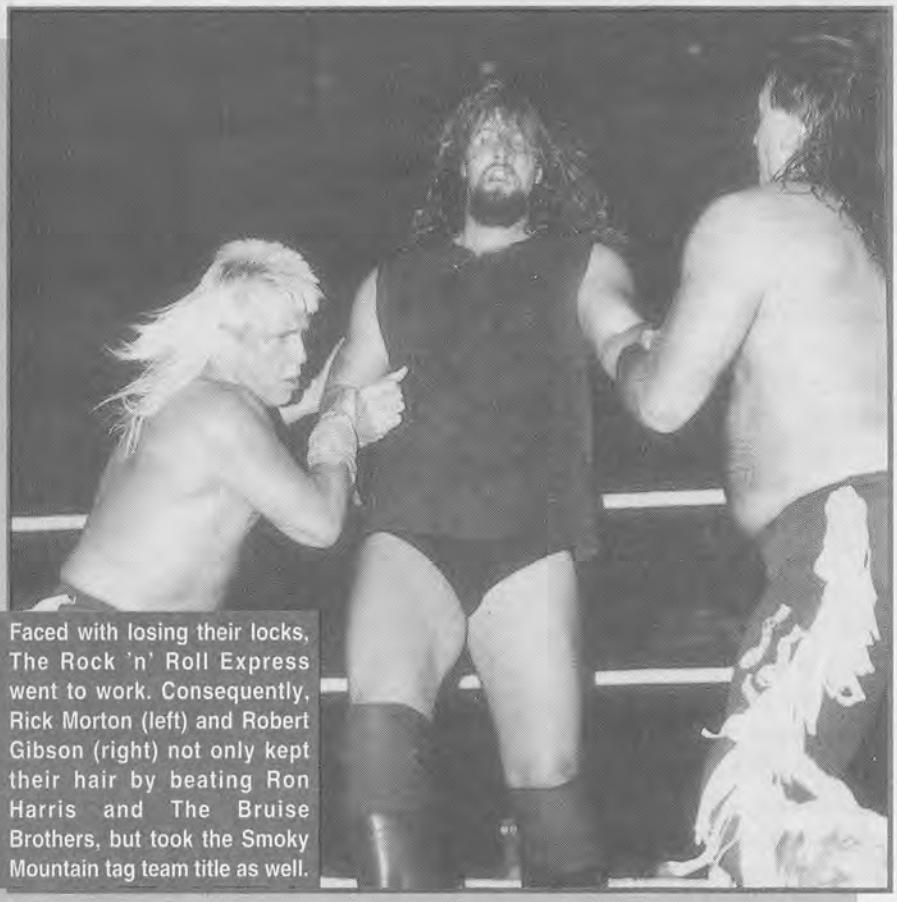
Steve Austin punches U.S. champ Dustin Rhodes. At press time, Austin was preparing for a title shot at Halloween Havoc. That didn't sit well with power bomber Sid Vicious.

Watch out for Chippewa **Charlie Norris**. The former independent from Minnesota is making some noise in WCW, beating established stars such as **Maxx Payne.** Nice to see **Ted Turner** finally has a genuine Atlanta Brave, but can he hit a curveball? (And did he root for the Twins in the '91 World Series?)

Charlie Norris shows off his pride in his Native American heritage. He also has every right to be proud of the way he's dominating WCW competition.

Speaking of Native Americans, **Tatanka** is now champ of the USWA. The WWF mainstay overthrew Memphis monarch **Jerry Lawler** for the title, and was even booed by fans at the Mid-South Coliseum. If someone so popular elsewhere gets that kind of reaction, you know the USWA-WWF rift is a serious one.

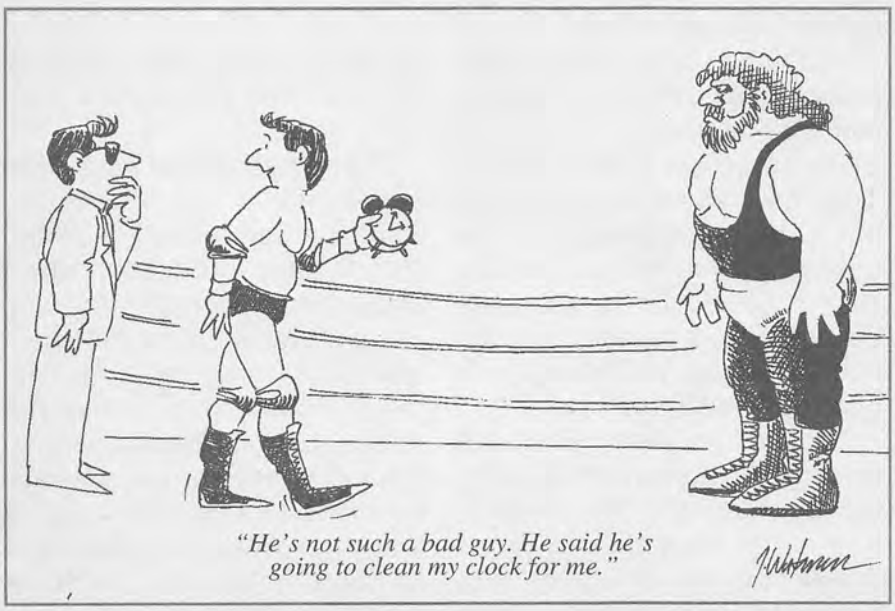
Two other titles changed hands that night. Veteran **Tommy Rich** added some impetus to his comeback, surprising **Jeff Jarrett** for the Southern title. And the cat-and-mouse game (pardon the analogy!)



Faced with losing their locks, The Rock 'n' Roll Express went to work. Consequently, Rick Morton (left) and Robert Gibson (right) not only kept their hair by beating Ron Harris and The Bruise Brothers, but took the Smoky Mountain tag team title as well.

between **The Moondogs** and **The Dogcatchers** continued; this time, the masked pair corraled the crazy canines.

Cornette, a commissioner? That's right. He now runs Smoky Mountain Wrestling after **Terry Funk** defeated **Bob Armstrong**, who would have regained his post with a win. Unless something changes soon, all SMW fan favorites may flee.



"He's not such a bad guy. He said he's going to clean my clock for me."

All wasn't well for James E., however. His **Bruise Brothers** lost their tag team titles to **The Rock 'n' Roll Express**, perhaps due in part to a match stipulation that inspired **Rick Morton** and **Robert Gibson**. Had they lost, they would have lost their hair as well. And I know what that's like!

Finally, a salute to **Ted DiBiase**. Only days after leaving the WWF with a loss to **Razor Ramon** at SummerSlam, the "Million-Dollar Man" and **Stan Hansen** won the All-Japan and Pacific Wrestling Federation tag titles in Tokyo, defeating **Toshiaki Kawada** and **Akira Taue.** Ted never was much for long vacations.

That's all for now. See you at ringside! □

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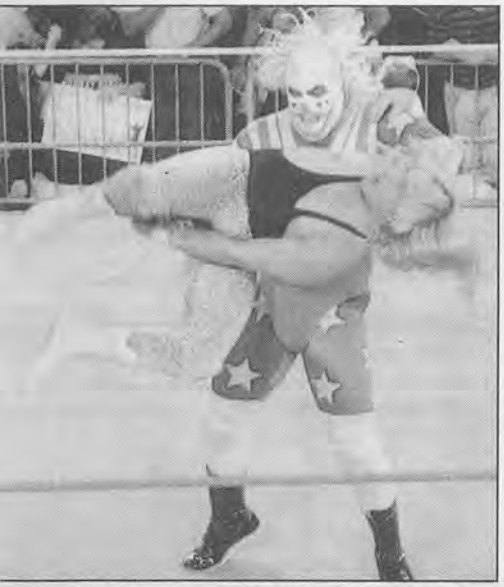
Doink

(Continued from page 34)

Bigelow and gave manager Luna Vachon an impromptu bath. Only months before, he had given the same treatment to the crazed Vachon's then-bitter rival, Sensational Sherri Martel.

Doink's behavior must come as a surprise to fan favorites like Savage and Crush, who have been victims of his antics and have never trusted him. This leads us to the all-important question: Why?

"I think it's a response to a response," said WWF expert Thomas Pilliard. "Doink has always heard the cheers from the crowd, even when he was a rulebreaker. For whatever reason, the fans seemed to take a liking to his behavior. By going after fan favorites, though, he limited the size of his fan base. He knows the public already approves of his water-throwing and other practical jokes. By directing them at rulebreakers, he has gained even wider acceptance."



Whether fan favorite or rulebreaker, Doink has provided solid technical wrestling skills to go with his antics. Rich Myer learns all too well while being dominated by the WWF's jester.

Other factors are involved as well. Doink's ring style is more in line with that of fan favorites, who pride themselves in their technical acumen. Between the ropes, he is actually one of the WWF's better scientific wrestlers.

"Let's put aside the costume and the pranks for a minute," said preliminary competitor Dusty Wolfe. "The man can flat-out wrestle. You don't see him using any of that stuff in the ring. He is an excellent on-the-mat wrestler. He has one of the best snapmares in the federation and always hooks the leg when going for the pin."

Doink's always had the technical ability, and now he has fan support behind him. Is that enough for him to win the WWF World or Intercontinental title?

It is the special wrestler like Hart and Shawn Michaels who can play the psychological game as well as the physical one. These men know that extracurricular actions can have as much force behind them as actual in-ring blows. They also know when to tune out a foe's badgering and let their actions in the ring do the talking. Could it be that, beneath the costume, facepaint, and wig, that Doink has what it takes to become a WWF star?

"Maybe," said one WWF fan favorite who spoke on the condition of anonymity. "He certainly has more tools than a lot of wrestlers in this federation. But he has to make up his mind. Is he a fan favorite or a rulebreaker? And can he gain the trust of the men he shares a locker room with?"

That question may have been answered at the Manhattan Center. After soaking Heenan, Doink procured yet another bucket from beneath the ring. He again approached the broadcast table, where one-time enemies McMahon and Savage remained. With electrical equipment everywhere, the potential for disaster was enormous. A silly smile broke across his face as he pitched the contents toward his targets.

Confetti. □

BACK ISSUES OF

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November 1983/COLOR PINUP: Roddy Piper. **Harley Race**, Santana, Mascaras, Ellering, Valiant, Race.

December 1983/COLOR PINUP: Wahoo McDaniel. **Dusty Rhodes**, Hayes, Steamboat, Hansen, DiBiase.

January 1984/COLOR PINUP: Harley Race. **Rick Martel,** Snuka, Freebirds, Dillon, Sawyer.

February 1984/COLOR PINUP: Jim Garvin & Sunshine. **Greg Valentine,** Super Destroyer, Race, Sawyer, Abdullah.

June 1984/COLOR PINUP: Dick Slater. **Ted DiBiase,** Wrestling II, Magnum T.A., Patera, Hogan.

July 1984/COLOR PINUP: Paul Ellering. **Jimmy Valiant,** JYD, Fab Ones, Gagne, Windham.

August 1984/COLOR PINUP: Stan Hansen. **Jerry Lawler,** Sullivan, Slaughter, Blackwell & Patera, Flair.

October 1984/COLOR PINUP: Billy Jack. **Kerry Von Erich,** Martel, Blanchard, Fabulous Blonds, Armstrong.

November 1984/COLOR PINUP: Rick Martel. **Sgt. Slaughter,** Von Erich, Road Warriors, Windham, Rotundo.

January 1985/COLOR PINUP: Tito Santana. **Road Warriors,** Billy Jack, Hayes, 1984 fan ballot.

February 1985/COLOR PINUP: Magnum T.A. **Rick Martel,** Hogan, Backlund, Ellering.

April 1985/COLOR PINUP: Ronnie Garvin, **Jimmy Snuka**, Warriors, Gordy, Flair, Rhodes.

September 1985/COLOR PINUP: Junkyard Dog. **Magnum T.A,** Von Erich, Hogan, AWA scouting reports.

October 1985/COLOR PINUP: Chris Adams. **Rick Steamboat**, Warriors, Nikita, WWF scouting reports.

February 1986/COLOR PINUP: Nikita Koloff. **Mike Von Erich,** Warriors, Santana, Taylor, Barbarian, Race.

June 1986/COLOR PINUP: Kevin Von Erich. **Hulk Hogan,** Adams, Duggan, Scott Hall.

July 1986/COLOR PINUP: King Kong Bundy. **R & R Express,** Hall and Hennig, Ventura, Warriors.

August 1986/COLOR PINUP: Dusty Rhodes. **Randy Savage,** Lugar vs. Race, Blanchard vs. Flair, Rude.

October 1986/COLOR PINUP: John Studd. **Nikita Koloff,** Savage vs. Bundy, Landell, Flair vs. Lugar, Simpson.

November 1986/COLOR PINUP: Baby Doll. **British Bulldogs,** Von Erich, Hansen, Gordy, Flair-Tully-Arn-Ole.

January 1987/COLOR PINUP: Fabulous Freebirds. **Roddy Piper,** Nikita vs. T.A., Snuka, Simpson.

February 1987/COLOR PINUP: Savage & Elizabeth. **UWF Tournament,** T.A., Baby Doll, Hogan vs. Orndorff.

May 1987/COLOR PINUP: Steve Williams. **Andre-Hogan,** UWF Tourny, Albano, Cornette, Dynamite Kid, Kerry.

June 1987/COLOR PINUP: Hulk Hogan. **Magnum T.A.,** Can-Ams, Warriors, Freebirds, Hall.

July 1987/COLOR PINUP: Midnight Rockers. **Steamboat-Savage,** Luger, Duggan, Garvins, Sting.

August 1987/COLOR PINUP: Jim Garvin & Precious. **Hogan-Andre,** Warriors, Windham-Flair, Gordy, Bigelow.

October 1987/COLOR PINUP: Ted DiBiase. **Ric Flair,** Williams, Rockers, Hogan vs. Steamboat, NWA & WWF.

November 1987/COLOR PINUP: George Steele. **Nikita Koloff,** Warriors, Harts, Hogan, Windham.

January 1988/COLOR PINUP: The Road Warriors. **Ted DiBiase,** Flair-Garvins, Hogan & Ventura, Zbyszko.

February 1988/COLOR PINUP: Ronnie Garvin. **Randy Savage,** Garvin-Flair, Von Erichs, Freebirds.

April 1988/COLOR PINUP: Rick Martel. **Lex Luger,** Flair-Garvin, Kerry, Survivor Series, Iron Sheik.

May 1988/COLOR PINUP: Sting. **Andre,** Valentine-Beefcake, Flair, Cornette, Owen Hart.

June 1988/COLOR PINUP: Tully Blanchard. **Hulk Hogan,** Muraco, Perez, Rockers, Bunkhouse Stampede.

July 1988/COLOR PINUP: Curt Hennig. **Hogan vs. Andre,** Express vs. Rockers, Beefcake, Perez, Rotundo-Sting.

August 1988/COLOR PINUP: Al Perez. **Savage & Hogan,** Gilbert-Lawler, Four Horsemen, Kerry Von Erich.

November 1988/COLOR PINUP: The Midnight Express. **Hogan,** Rhodes, Express, Powers of Pain.

December 1988/COLOR PINUP: Hacksaw Duggan. **Four Horsemen,** Brody, Bigelow, Garvin, Precious.

January 1989/COLOR PINUP: Barry Windham. **Hogan-Savage-Elizabeth,** Warriors, Sting.

February 1989/COLOR PINUP: Jake Roberts. **Luger,** Hogan-Savage, Kevin Von, Beefcake-Bass.

April 1989/COLOR PINUP: Rick Steiner. **Savage,** Dangerously, Muraco, Turner, Powers.

June 1989/COLOR PINUP: Rick Steamboat. **Hogan vs. Savage,** Warriors, Zbyszko, Rhodes.

July 1989/COLOR PINUP: Roddy Piper. **Steamboat,** Hogan, Paul E., Dream Tournament, Studd, Muraco.

August 1989/COLOR PINUP: Lex Luger. **Hogan,** Ultimate, Steamboat-Flair, Road Warriors, Rhodes.

October 1989/COLOR PINUP: Rick Rude. **Luger vs. Hogan,** Snuka, Sting, Lawler vs. Perez, Page.

November 1989/COLOR PINUP: Ric Flair. **Rhodes,** Steiner, Luger vs. Steamboat, Ultimate, Fuller-Jarrett.

December 1989/COLOR PINUP: Jimmy Snuka. **Luger, Vicious, Muta, Sting,** Beefcake & Hogan, Tully & Arn.

January 1990/COLOR PINUP: Sid Vicious. **Ultimate,** Cornette, Ross, Kerry.

February 1990/COLOR PINUP: Bret Hart. **Lex Luger,** Hogan, Hennig-Beefcake, Toni Adams, Woman.

April 1990/COLOR PINUP: Dusty Rhodes. **Ric Flair,** Hennig vs. Hogan, Sting, Rockers, Lawler.

May 1990/COLOR PINUP: The Great Muta. **Hulk Hogan,** Skyscrapers, R&R Express, Piper, Embry.

June 1990/COLOR PINUP: Sting. **Hogan vs. Warrior,** R&R Express, Rhodes vs. Savage, Arn vs. Sawyer.

July 1990/COLOR PINUP: Rick Martel. **Lex Luger,** Beefcake, Skyscrapers, Heenan, Saito, referees.

September 1990/PINUP: Rick & Scott Steiner. COLOR FEATURES: **Hogan,** Sting, Horsemen, Hennig.

October 1990/PINUP: Brutus Beefcake. COLOR FEATURES: **Sting,** Tugboat, Ultimate, Long, Blanchard-Orndorff.

November 1990/PINUP: Legion of Doom. COLOR FEATURES: **Sting beats Flair,** Rude-Warrior.

December 1990/PINUP: Sting. COLOR FEATURES: **Legion of Doom, Kerry, Slaughter,** Doom, Horsemen.

January 1991/PINUP: Kerry Von Erich. COLOR FEATURES: **WWF vs. NWA,**Hogan, Hansen, Sting, Sherri.

February 1991/PINUP: 1991 calendar. COLOR FEATURES: Scott Steiner, Vicious vs. Luger, Rhodes vs. DiBiase.

April 1991/PINUP: Tom Zenk. COLOR FEATURES: **Sgt. Slaughter,** Hogan & Warrior, Magnum T.A., Lawler-Gilbert.

May 1991/PINUP: Arn Anderson. COLOR FEATURES: **Hogan,** Rude, Flair-Sting, Thesz.

June 1991/PINUP: Hacksaw Duggan. COLOR FEATURES: **Hogan,** Doom, Horsemen, Steiner.

July 1991/PINUP: Brian Pillman. COLOR FEATURES: **Hogan,** Luger, Demolition, Embry, Horsemen-Vicious.

October 1991/PINUP: Lex Luger. COLOR FEATURES: **Justice,** Hogan-Slaughter, Windham, Williams.

November 1991/PINUP: Bobby Eaton. COLOR FEATURES: **Savage & Elizabeth,** Bushwhackers, Liger, Pillman.

December 1991/PINUP: Rick Steamboat. COLOR FEATURES: ***PWI* 500**, Simmons, Badd, Hogan-Flair.

January 1992/PINUP: Ron Simmons. COLOR FEATURES: **Flair**, R. Steiner, Ultimate, Luger.

February 1992/PINUP: 1992 calendar. COLOR FEATURES: **Hogan**, Gilbert, Roberts-Justice, hot prospects.

April 1992/PINUP: Ric Flair. COLOR FEATURES: **Sting-Luger**, Rockers, WWF Violence, Dangerous Alliance.

May 1992/PINUP: Rick Rude. COLOR FEATURES: **Hogan**, Sting & Muta vs. Steiners, Savage-Roberts.

June 1992/PINUP: Dustin Rhodes. COLOR FEATURES: **Piper** interview, Abdullah-Cactus, Flair-Savage, Justice.

July 1992/PINUP: Randy Savage. COLOR FEATURES: **Best of the Best**, Flair, U.S.-Japan, Savage.

September 1992/PINUP: Nikita Koloff. FEATURES: Justice, **Sting-Savage**, Backlund, Steiners, Michaels.

October 1992/PINUP: Cactus Jack. FEATURES: **Savage vs. Warrior**, Embry-Moondogs, Z-Man, Japan fire match.

November 1992/PINUP: The Ultimate Warrior. FEATURES: **British Bulldog**, Undertaker, Steiners, Honky Tonk Man interview.

December 1992/PINUP: Big Van Vader. FEATURES: **PWI 500**, Bossman-Nailz, Watt & WCW rules, Justice interview.

January 1993/PINUP: Jeff Jarrett. FEATURES: **Flair/SummerSlam**, Simmons by Bowden, Von Erich interview.

February 1993/PINUP: Curt Hennig. FEATURES: **Ramon**, Snuka-Muraco, Rude, Rhodes, Roberts interview.

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time capsules

NOW *THAT'S* "SWEET" MUSIC

Sweet Daddy Siki made beautiful music on the mat for decades, but his talents were varied. Here, in September 1967, Sweet Daddy and his band—The Irresistibles—crank out some tunes at a popular Toronto night spot. Though Sweet Daddy spent a good portion of his wrestling career as a rulebreaker, he was quite the fan favorite after he put together this country band. He still performs from time to time. "I'm a jack-of-all-trades," he says.

SOME EXAMPLE YOU'RE SETTING, MR. PRESIDENT!

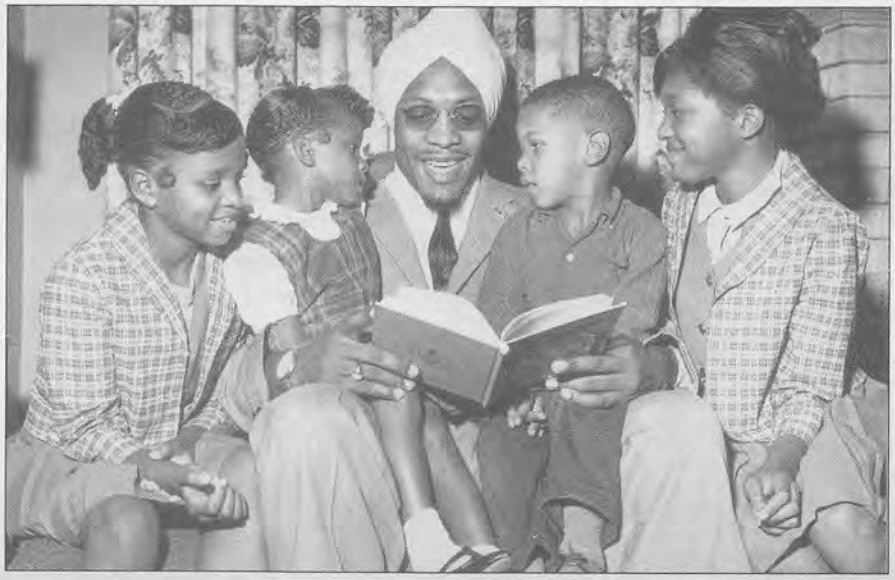
Who would've thought a man could be photographed hammering a bed of nails into another wrestler's stomach and then one day become NWA president? Well, it happened to Bob Geigel. And it was okay, because the man on the receiving end, The Mighty Atlas (a.k.a. Morris Shapiro), welcomed it. Atlas claimed he was the toughest and strongest man in wrestling, and this was just one of the ways he went about proving it.

SEE, I *TOLD* YOU I'M NO LIGHTWEIGHT

Even on a rare day off, Alberto Torres (on scale) kept a keen eye on his weight. Brother Ramon was nearby to make sure he was tipping the scales at the proper poundage. Back in August 1961, getting weighed was quite a bargain, too. If you look closely at the sign at the bottom of the scale, you'll see that your weight would be told for a mere penny—for someone the size of the legendary Haystacks Calhoun, though, perhaps it went up to two or three cents!

"ONCE UPON A TIME THERE WAS A VICIOUS WRESTLER ..."

Armen Hussien was as tough as the next guy when he stepped into the squared circle, but when a couple of neighborhood children dropped by, he turned into a pussycat. Here, four kids hang on Hussien's every word as he reads one of his favorite stories. Judging by the looks on the kids' faces, the story had a happy ending. The rulebreaker must've gotten pinned!



Every other month, ***Pro Wrestling Illustrated*** *will pore through its massive photo collection to bring you some of the most unique photographs the mat world has ever seen!*

VOTED "MOST LIKELY TO MANAGE RULEBREAKERS"

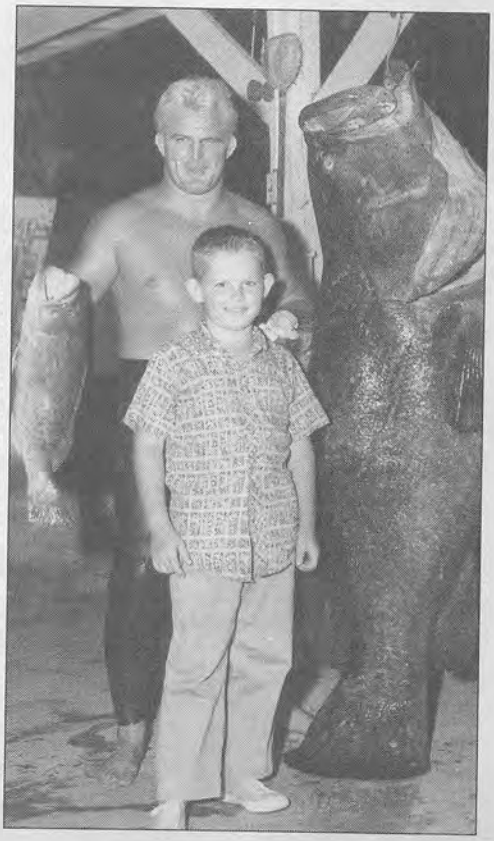
Do you recognize this ninth grade photo? Here's a hint: She's getting really *nasty* these days. That's right, it's Missy Hyatt, the new manager of the WCW World tag team champions, The Nasty Boys! It's not difficult to picture the teenage Missy as a homecoming queen or cheerleader, but how about as a wrestling team manager? "I was just as sweet and innocent in high school as I am now," said Hyatt. "I knew wrestling talent when I saw it back then, too."

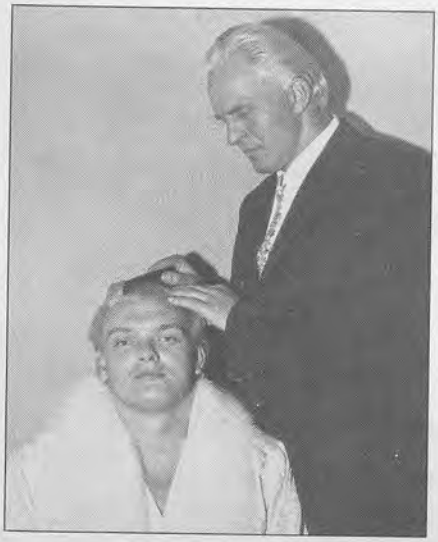
THERE MUST BE AN EASIER WAY TO LEARN THIS HOLD

In 1970, years before he learned how to "boogie woogie," Jimmy Valiant was just an average wrestler. He didn't become one of the greats until people like Bobby Managoff (right), an NWA World champion during the 1940s, taught him how to correctly apply holds such as armbars and wristlocks. "Bobby was a big help to me," said Valiant. "Everyone needs to learn the basic moves sometime." We hope he didn't demonstrate the piledriver next.

HEY DAD, WOULDN'T THAT FISH MAKE A GREAT TAG TEAM PARTNER?

When former NWA World champion Eddie Graham wasn't in the ring, he enjoyed being with his son, Mike, who later became a fine wrestler himself. In Mike's youth, the two took many fishing trips together. "It was always great spending time with my dad," Mike once said. "Obviously I learned a lot about wrestling when I was very young." No word on who caught the giant fish ...or who reeled in the smaller one.





HAIR'S A PIECE OF TRIVIA FOR YOU

You may recall Johnny Valentine as one of the most brutal singles grapplers of all time (in fact, he was one of the very first to use the atomic skullcrusher!). But what you may not recall is the fact that Valentine once had a personal valet: Chet Wallick, who tends to Johnny's locks so that he looks just so for his ring entrance.

PRO Wrestling ILLUSTRATED

PWI's Top 10

The Undertaker

TOP 10

1 BIG VAN VADER
404, Denver, CO
(5) WCW World champion

2 YOKOZUNA
505, Samoa
(2) WWF World champion

3 SHAWN MICHAELS
220, San Antonio, TX
(6) WWF Intercontinental champion

4 BRET HART
235, Calgary, Alberta
(3) No. 2 contender: WWF World title

5 DUSTIN RHODES
254, Austin, TX
(7) U.S. heavyweight champion

6 RICK RUDE
246, Robbinsdale, MN
(10) No. 2 contender: WCW World title

7 LEX LUGER
290, Chicago, IL
(1) No. 8 contender: WWF World title

8 THE UNDERTAKER
320, parts unknown
(-) No. 3 contender: WWF World title

9 CURT HENNIG
235, Minneapolis, MN
(-) No. 1 contender: WWF Intercontinental title

10 STING
260, Venice Beach, CA
(8) No. 5 contender: WCW World title

TAG TEAMS

1 THE QUEBECERS
Combined weight: 472 pounds
(-) WWF World tag team champions

2 THE NASTY BOYS
Combined weight: 585 pounds
(3) WCW World tag team champions

3 RICK & SCOTT STEINER
Combined weight: 483 pounds
(1) No. 1 contenders: WWF World tag title

4 ARN ANDERSON & PAUL ROMA
Combined weight: 484 pounds
(2) No. 1 contenders: WCW World tag title

5 2 COLD SCORPIO & MARCUS BAGWELL
Combined weight: 460 pounds
(8) No. 2 contenders: WCW World tag title

6 THE HEAVENLY BODIES
Combined weight: 450 pounds
(4) No. 2 contenders: WWF World tag title

7 THE ROCK 'N' ROLL EXPRESS
Combined weight: 453 pounds
(9) Smoky Mountain tag team champions

8 THE HEADSHRINKERS
Combined weight: 520 pounds
(5) No. 3 contenders: WWF World tag title

9 THE DOGCATCHERS
Combined weight: 468 pounds
(10) USWA tag team champions

10 THE BRUISE BROTHERS
Combined weight: 583 pounds
(6) No. 1 contenders: Smoky Mountain tag title

WCW

World Champion:
BIG VAN VADER
(C) 404, Denver, CO

1—DUSTIN RHODES
(6) 254, Austin, TX
2—RICK RUDE
(4) 246, Robbinsdale, MN
3—STEVE REGAL
(-) 247, Blackpool, England
4—RIC FLAIR
(1) 243, Minneapolis, MN
5—STING
(5) 260, Venice Beach, CA
6—RICK STEAMBOAT
(2) 238, Honolulu, HI
7—DAVEY BOY SMITH
(3) 245, Leeds, England
8—CACTUS JACK
(-) 277, Truth or Consequences, NM
9—STEVE AUSTIN
(-) 241, Dallas, TX
10—SID VICIOUS
(8) 318, West Memphis, AR

WWF

World Champion:
YOKOZUNA
(C) 505, Samoa

1—SHAWN MICHAELS
(1) 220, San Antonio, TX
2—BRET HART
(3) 235, Calgary, Alberta
3—THE UNDERTAKER
(9) 320, parts unknown
4—DOINK THE CLOWN
(-) 235, parts unknown
5—CURT HENNIG
(4) 235, Minneapolis, MN
6—RAZOR RAMON
(8) 291, Minneapolis, MN
7—TATANKA
(7) 260, Miami, FL
8—LEX LUGER
(2) 290, Chicago, IL
9—JERRY LAWLER
(5) 234, Memphis, TN
10—RANDY SAVAGE
(6) 245, Sarasota, FL

GLOBAL

North American Champion:
ROD PRICE
(C) 265, Los Angeles, CA

1—ICEMAN PARSONS
(1) 245, St. Louis, MO
2—CHRIS ADAMS
(2) 228, Stratford, England
3—BLACK BART
(3) 261, Pampa, TX
4—AL PEREZ
(4) 239, Tampa, FL
5—KILLER BROOKS
(6) 254, Waxahachie, TX
6—SCOTT PUTSKI
(5) 235, Austin, TX
7—JOHN HAWK
(10) 280, Sweetwater, TX
8—STEVEN DANE
(-) 232, Dallas, TX
9—ACTION JACKSON
(-) 281, Dallas, TX
10—ANGEL OF DEATH
(7) 310, Los Angeles, CA

USWA

USWA Champion:
TATANKA
(C) 260, Miami, FL

1—TOMMY RICH
(-) 248, Hendersonville, TN
2—JEFF JARRETT
(1) 220, Hendersonville, TN
3—JERRY LAWLER
(C) 234, Memphis, TN
4—BRIAN CHRISTOPHER
(3) 230, Memphis, TN
5—BRET HART
(4) 235, Calgary, Alberta
6—GIANT GONZALES
(-) 435, Buenos Aires, Argentina
7—JEFF GAYLORD
(7) 280, St. Louis, MO
8—VAMPIRE WARRIOR
(2) 234, parts unknown
9—COLIN SCOTTS
(9) 265, Sydney, Australia
10—TONY FALK
(-) 237, Memphis, TN

OFFICIAL RATINGS

Top 10 and Tag Team ratings are based on won-lost records for the past month, quality of opposition, and inherent skill of each wrestler or team. These ratings are compiled by the magazine's editorial board. Most Popular and Most Hated ratings are based on nationwide telephone and arena surveys of wrestling fans and on the volume and character of mail that comes to our offices. All other ratings are based on the official current positions of challengers to the top title in each category; certain titleholders receive an automatic spot in the ratings. The number in parentheses indicates a wrestler's position in that category last issue; (-) indicates that the wrestler was not rated in that category last issue. while (C) indicates the wrestler was champion in that category last issue.

For period ended September 19, 1993

MOST POPULAR

1 LEX LUGER
290, Chicago, IL
Last issue: No. 1 Most Popular

2 STING
260, Venice Beach, CA
Last issue: No. 3 Most Popular

3 BRET HART
235, Calgary, Alberta
Last issue: No. 6 Most Popular

4 DAVEY BOY SMITH
245, Leeds, England
Last issue: No. 7 Most Popular

5 TATANKA
260, Miami, FL
Last issue: No. 8 Most Popular

6 DUSTIN RHODES
254, Austin, TX
Last issue: No. 9 Most Popular

7 RANDY SAVAGE
245, Sarasota, FL
Last issue: No. 2 Most Popular

8 RIC FLAIR
243, Minneapolis, MN
Last issue: No. 4 Most Popular

9 CURT HENNIG
235, Minneapolis, MN
Last issue: unrated

10 RICK STEAMBOAT
238, Honolulu, HI
Last issue: unrated

MOST HATED

1 JERRY LAWLER
234, Memphis, TN
Last issue: No. 1 Most Hated

2 BIG VAN VADER
404, Denver, CO
Last issue: No. 2 Most Hated

3 SHAWN MICHAELS
220, San Antonio, TX
Last issue: No. 4 Most Hated

4 SID VICIOUS
318, West Memphis, AR
Last issue: No. 6 Most Hated

5 YOKOZUNA
505, Samoa
Last issue: No. 3 Most Hated

6 RICK RUDE
246, Robbinsdale, MN
Last issue: No. 5 Most Hated

7 BRIAN CHRISTOPHER
230, Memphis, TN
Last issue: No. 8 Most Hated

8 PAUL ORNDORFF
253, Brandon, FL
Last issue: unrated

9 STEVE REGAL
247, Blackpool, England
Last issue: unrated

10 DOINK THE CLOWN
235, parts unknown
Last issue: unrated

CUMULATIVE RATINGS

These ratings are based on the past 10 issues of this magazine. We have examined our ratings for each of these issues in our Top 10 and Tag Team categories only, and assigned each position a point value: 10 points for a first-place rating, nine for second place, and so on. The point values for all wrestlers in the past 10 issues have been compiled, with a possible maximum of 100 points. Each issue we'll present the top five finishers in each category. While our regular ratings reflect the past month, these cumulative ratings give an indication of wider trends in the sport.

SINGLES

1—BIG VAN VADER .....79 points
2—BRET HART.....77 points
3—SHAWN MICHAELS .....53 points
4—STING .....40 points
5—YOKOZUNA .....39 points

TAG TEAMS

1—MONEY INC.....67 points
2—RICK & SCOTT STEINER.....65 points
3—THE HOLLYWOOD BLONDS.....58 points
4—RICK STEAMBOAT & SHANE DOUGLAS .....54 points
5—THE HEADSHRINKERS.....46 points

SMOKY MOUNTAIN

Smoky Mountain Champion:
BRIAN LEE
(C) 251, Los Angeles, CA

1—JIM DEL RAY
(5) 234, Kingsport, TN

2—TRACEY SMOTHERS
(-) 227, Atlanta, GA

3—TERRY FUNK
(-) 247, Amarillo, TX

4—TIM HORNER
(3) 235, Morristown, TN

5—CHRIS CANDIDO
(4) 226, Carteret, NJ

6—TONY ANTHONY
(1) 235, Bucksnort, TN

7—MONGOLIAN STOMPER
(-) 239, Mongolia

8—BLACK NINJA
(-) 243, parts unknown

9—SCOTT ARMSTRONG
(10) 212, Marietta, GA

10—STEVE ARMSTRONG
(7) 224, Marietta, GA

IWCCW

IWCCW Champion:
TITLE VACANT
(C) To be determined in tourney

1—HERCULES
(1) 255, Tampa, FL

2—GREG VALENTINE
(2) 243, Seattle, WA

3—TONY ATLAS
(3) 247, Roanoke, VA

4—KOKO B. WARE
(4) 229, Union City, TN

5—KENDALL WINDHAM
(5) 220, Sweetwater, TX

6—JOE SAVOLDI
(6) 220, Parsippany, NJ

7—TASMANIAC
(7) 232, Tasmania

8—LANCE VON ERICH
(8) 260, Arlington, TX

9—TOMMY DREAMER
(9) 245, Yonkers, NY

10—JOHNNY WILDSIDE
(10) 285, parts unknown

ECW: ECW Champion—Shane Douglas; **1**—Jimmy Snuka; **2**—Don Muraco; **3**—Tito Santana; **4**—Stan Hansen; **5**—Terry Funk; **6**—Hawk; **7**—Abdullah the Butcher; **8**—Dark Patriot; **9**—J.T. Smith; **10**—The Sandman.

ICWA: ICWA Champion—Cuban Assassin; **1**—Frankie Rose; **2**—Surgeon General; **3**—Billy Mack; **4**—Bill Payne; **5**—Lord Of Discipline; **6**—Frankie Reyes; **7**—Rico Fredrico; **8**—Dr. G; **9**—Death Dealer; **10**—Jeff Bradley.

PWA: PWA Champion—The Hater; **1**—Tommy Ferrara; **2**—Hawk; **3**—Eddie Gilbert; **4**—Billy Blaze; **5**—Ricky Rice; **6**—Masked Jungle Fighter; **7**—Brad Rheingans; **8**—Derrick Dukes; **9**—The Chosen One; **10**—J.B. Trask.

PWF: PWF Champion—Austin Steele; **1**—Italian Stallion; **2**—George South; **3**—Flaming Youth; **4**—Terry Austin; **5**—Cruel Connection II; **6**—Star Ryder; **7**—Black Scorpion; **8**—Russian Assassin II; **9**—American G.I.; **10**—Jeff Victory.

SOUTHERN STATES WRESTLING: SSW Champion—Wayne Rogers; **1**—Jimmy Golden; **2**—G. Q. Stratus; **3**—Mike Samson; **4**—The Mongolian Stomper; **5**—Eddie Golden; **6**—Alex Shane; **7**—Keith Hart; **8**—Skyfire; **9**—Danny Christian; **10**—Billy Marshall.

USA: USA TV Champion—Col. DeBeers; **1**—Silver Shadow; **2**—Ryuma Go; **3**—Jesse Barr; **4**—Bruiser Brian; **5**—Lou Andrews; **6**—Sumito; **7**—Dirty White Boy; **8**—Karl Pope; **9**—Dane Rush; **10**—Jimmy Snuka.

WWA: WWA Champion—The Spider; **1**—Shasheem; **2**—Chris Evans; **3**—Ed the Razor; **4**—Chris Candido; **5**—Bobby Salsa; **6**—Boy Gone Bad; **7**—Barry Hardy; **8**—Duane Gill; **9**—Scott Vida; **10**—Abbuda Singh.

WWC: WWC Universal Champion—Greg Valentine; **1**—Invader I; **2**—Abdullah the Butcher; **3**—Ricky Santana; **4**—Ray Gonzales; **5**—John Savage; **6**—The Barbarian; **7**—Dusty Wolfe; **8**—La Ley; **9**—El Bronco; **10**—Mohammed Hussein.

RATINGS ANALYSIS

Every month, this column will tell fans how we go about rating over 200 wrestlers in 20 different categories. It is a behind-the-scenes look at the most important–and respected–ratings system in the sport. This column is vital reading for all wrestling fans.

Ability or record? Compiling an overall Top 10 is one of the most difficult things we must do when putting together our ratings. With so many outstanding wrestlers around today, we always feel as if we're leaving somebody out. World champions **Yokozuna** and **Big Van Vader** are almost always listed among the elite 10, but picking the others is tricky work.

Do we go on won-loss record for the previous month? Is overall ability more important? We try to strike a balance. That's why an athlete such as **Bret "Hitman" Hart** is a fixture in the overall Top 10. In recent months (when he hasn't been attacking **Jerry Lawler**), Hart has been valiantly trying to regain the WWF World title from hated Samoan Yokozuna, who dethroned him at WrestleMania IX.

Bret Hart

Obviously, Hart has been unsuccessful. He has beaten his foe by disqualification many times, mostly due to devious manager **Mr Fuji's** interference.

But the "Hitman" has also lost his share of bouts in that feud. Sometimes Fuji is sneaky enough to get away with his nasty tricks! Some fans believe the bottom line is all that counts. Ability and potential are wonderful things to have, but they're meaningless if they don't bring you the right results, some argue.

What do you think matters most? Should the arguably more talented **Rick Rude** and **"Mr. Perfect" Curt Hennig** be ranked above, say, **Johnny B. Badd** and **Tatanka**, both of whom might be on a longer winning streak? Let us know what you think.

Imagine the headaches we had when we were ranking the top 500 grapplers in the "*PWI* 500" last month. Maybe we should have asked this question two or three months ago!

They're not The Mounties. The wrestling world was shocked when then-WWF World tag team champions **Rick** and **Scott Steiner** agreed to wrestle relative newcomers **The Quebecers** for the belts at *WWF Monday Night Raw* under "Province Of Quebec" rules. That stipulation meant piledrivers, moves from the top rope, and throwing an opponent over the top rope would result in disqualification.

And the title would change hands if the Steiners were counted out or disqualified.

Wouldn't you know, **Jacques** and **Pierre** took home the belts after new mentor **Johnny Polo** threw a hockey stick into the ring. Referee **Dave Hebner** only saw the Steiners using it, and he disqualified them.

That brings us to yet another problem. Rick and Scott have proven over the past few years that they're among the best tag teams of recent decades. When they finally unseated **Money Inc.** as champs in the WWF, we were happy to put them at the head of our tag team class.

With apologies to our French-Canadian fans, it's hard for us to say The Quebecers are *better* than the popular brothers from Michigan. Jacques and Pierre have yet to dominate any top tag team, and, of course, never scored a pin to win the title.

But we reluctantly ranked them above the Steiners this month, since they are the champs. They took the title underhandedly, but that fact remains: *They did win the belts!*

We'll keep a close eye on them in the future ... to make sure they begin to earn any high ranking we give them. They've taken the first major step; now Jacques and Pierre have the unenviable task of trying to stay atop the WWF.

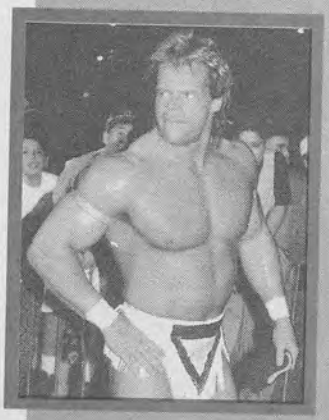
The Quebecers

Are they already hearing the loud footsteps of Rick and Scott, **The Smokin' Gunns**, **Well Dunn**, **The Heavenly Bodies**, **The Headshrinkers**, and **Men on a Mission**?

Did we make the right decision? Have we underestimated the new champions? Do the ends justify the means when it comes to winning championships in wrestling? We need you to speak your mind ... because we can't speak it for you. Send your comments to: "Ratings Analysis," c/o PRO WRESTLING ILLUSTRATED, Box 956, Fort Washington, PA 19034. □

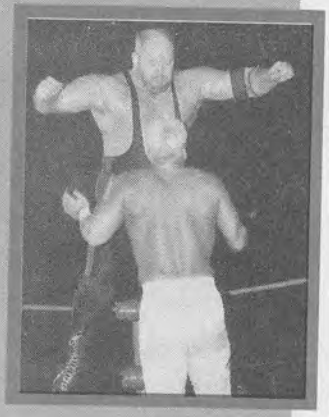
this month in...

Wrestling 93 Rulebreaker



Scoundrel LEX LUGER hides behind the flag!

Exclusive poll results: BIG VAN VADER is the baddest man alive!



PLUS ...

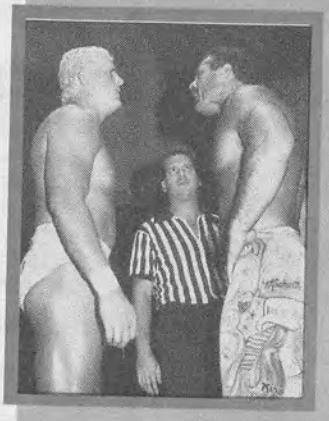
Brat patrol: Targeting wrestling's most pampered players ... **RIC FLAIR:** Some "man" he turned out to be ... It's time **THE KID** was sent to his room ... **THE HEAVENLY BODIES** are ready to give their opponents hell! ... An exclusive interview with **STEVE AUSTIN** ... **TED DiBIASE** has his say

All this—and much more!—in the Winter 1993 issue of ***Wrestling 93: Rulebreaker***

NOW ON SALE!

Wrestle America

Find out what happened to THE ULTIMATE WARRIOR



RICK RUDE: "The hell with DUSTIN ... I have bigger plans!"

PLUS ...

LEX LUGER shows America he's changed for good ... The experts agree: **CACTUS JACK'S** comeback will cripple him for life ... No more joint returns: Can **IRWIN R. SCHYSTER** make it on his own? ... Exclusive action photographs from SummerSlam and top WCW cards!

All this—and much more!—in the December 1993 issue of ***Wrestle America***

NOW ON SALE!

VOLUME XIV, No. 10

OCTOBER 1993

WRESTLING ENQUIRER

MISSY HYATT JOINS FORCES WITH THE NASTY BOYS

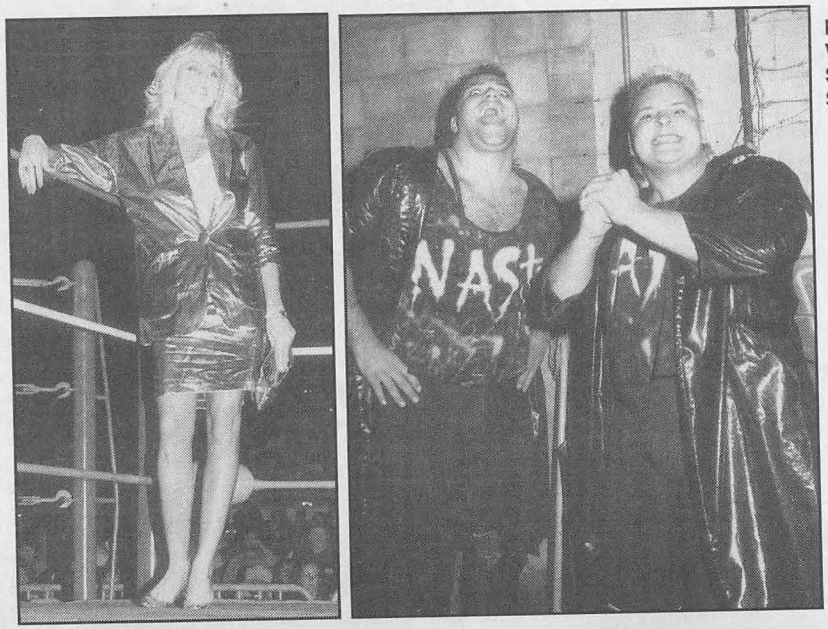
First Lady Of WCW Returns To Managing

By CRAIG PETERS

ATLANTA, GA—Missy Hyatt, one of wrestling's most prominent personalities, will again assume a more visible role in WCW; she has signed on as manager of The Nasty Boys—Brian Knobs and Jerry Sags.

Knobs and Sags are known as one of the meanest, dirtiest—and most disgusting—tag teams today. That makes their pairing with the lovely Missy all the more difficult to understand, but both parties seem to think the alliance makes perfect sense.

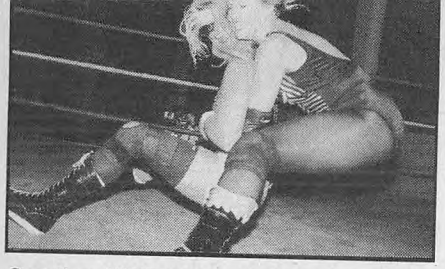
"Just call us 'Beauty And The Beasts,'" said Knobs. "Missy's a beautiful woman. We'll all be one big happy family. And who says me and Sags are all that disgusting anyway?"



Missy turns Nasty: Hyatt (left), most recently a WCW TV personality, has returned to managing. She'll be running The Nasty Boys (right), Jerry Sags and Brian Knobs, in seemingly an odd fit.

Hyatt briefly managed the bizarre Barbarian several months ago, and once managed Rick and Scott Steiner.

"We've all seen The Nasty Boys dominate WCW these last few months," said Hyatt. "Their accomplishments speak for themselves. But with my brains and beauty, they'll become the greatest team of all. And maybe I'll make them a little less icky outside the ring. I really don't like blood, sweat, spit, and all that stuff."



One-time WWF women's champion Wendi Richter is back in action, nearly a decade after ending Fabulous Moolah's 28-year title reign. Richter fought to a double-countout with Rustee Thomas on a women's card in New Jersey.

Former Champ Richter Makes Return

By V.J. PATERNO

CHERRY HILL, NJ—One of the most popular women wrestlers in history returned to the ring and had her share of success on a Wild Women of Wrestling card.

Wendi Richter, a former WWF women's champion who allied herself with pop star Cyndi Lauper a decade ago, entered the ring with Lauper's "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" blaring in the background. She defeated Kat LeRoux on the afternoon portion of the card, then battled Rustee "The Foxx" Thomas to a double-countout later that evening.

"I know I don't wrestle as much as I used to," said Richter, "but it's still a great feeling to hear the fans cheering for me. I still love to wrestle and I'll forever remember how great it was to beat Fabulous Moolah for the WWF women's belt 10 years ago."

Also on the card, Bambi lost the WWOW title to Penelope Paradise in the afternoon, then gained it back in the evening after challenging and pinning Paradise as the masked La Mascara.

Schyster Pinned By P.J. Walker

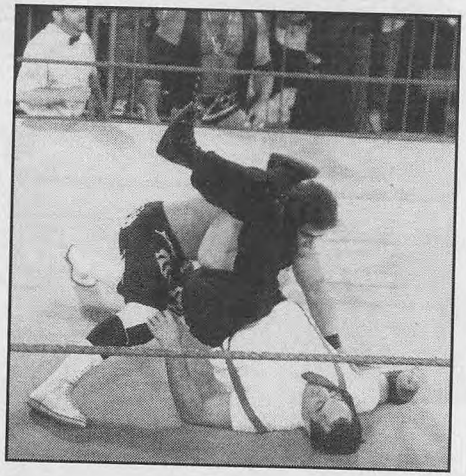
By DAVE LENKER

NEW YORK—Former Money Inc. star Irwin R. Schyster didn't expect much of a challenge from preliminary grappler P.J. Walker on a recent *WWF Monday Night Raw*. He got more than he could handle when Walker scored a surprising pin.

Walker attacked Schyster before the bell, but quickly realized he had made a mistake when IRS shot an annoyed look his way. The taxman dominated Walker for the next several minutes and seemed on the verge of pinning him when the crowd began to roar. Razor Ramon, a rival of Schyster's, was on his way to the ring!

When Schyster saw him, he disregarded Walker and went over to the ropes to yell at Ramon. While the two exchanged heated words, Walker recovered, rolled up a stunned IRS from behind, and got the three-count.

Walker immediately ran to the dressing room, while Schyster rolled outside. It took several WWF officials to keep him from attacking Ramon.



Tax revolt! P.J. Walker became more than a "prelim bum," upsetting Irwin R. Schyster on *WWF Monday Night Raw*. The loss came only weeks after Schyster and Money Inc. teammate Ted DiBiase parted ways.

Masked Man Appears In USWA

By ANDY RODRIGUEZ

MEMPHIS, TN—Just days after Chris Adams lost a loser-leaves-town match to Brian Christopher, a mysterious masked man arrived on the scene with scandalous photos in hand.

Adams and Christopher had been feuding over Toni Adams, Chris' estranged wife, who came to the USWA under the name Miss Simpson and worked for Christopher as his maid. Chris exposed the scam and sought a reconciliation. On several occasions, Toni refused to attack her husband when Christopher ordered her to do so.

In the loser-leaves-town match, Christopher brought new valet Robin to the ring with him. She gave Christopher a chain during the bout, which he used to defeat Adams.

The new masked man, whom Christopher claims is Adams, has pictures of Christopher and Robin kissing. Toni is infuriated.

"That Adams will pay for this," said Christopher. "He thinks he can hide behind a mask. No! He'll pay for ruining my relationship with Miss Simpson."

AROUND THE GLOBE

YOKOHAMA, JAPAN

Hulk Hogan is again making noise about returning to the WWF on a regular basis. Rumors have been circulating that the "Hulkster" may soon put his acting career on hold and come back stateside. He did well on the WWF's recent European tour, defeating Yokozuna by disqualification several times. At press time, he was preparing to team with IWGP champ The Great Muta against The Hellraisers. Three days later he was to face Muta one-on-one.

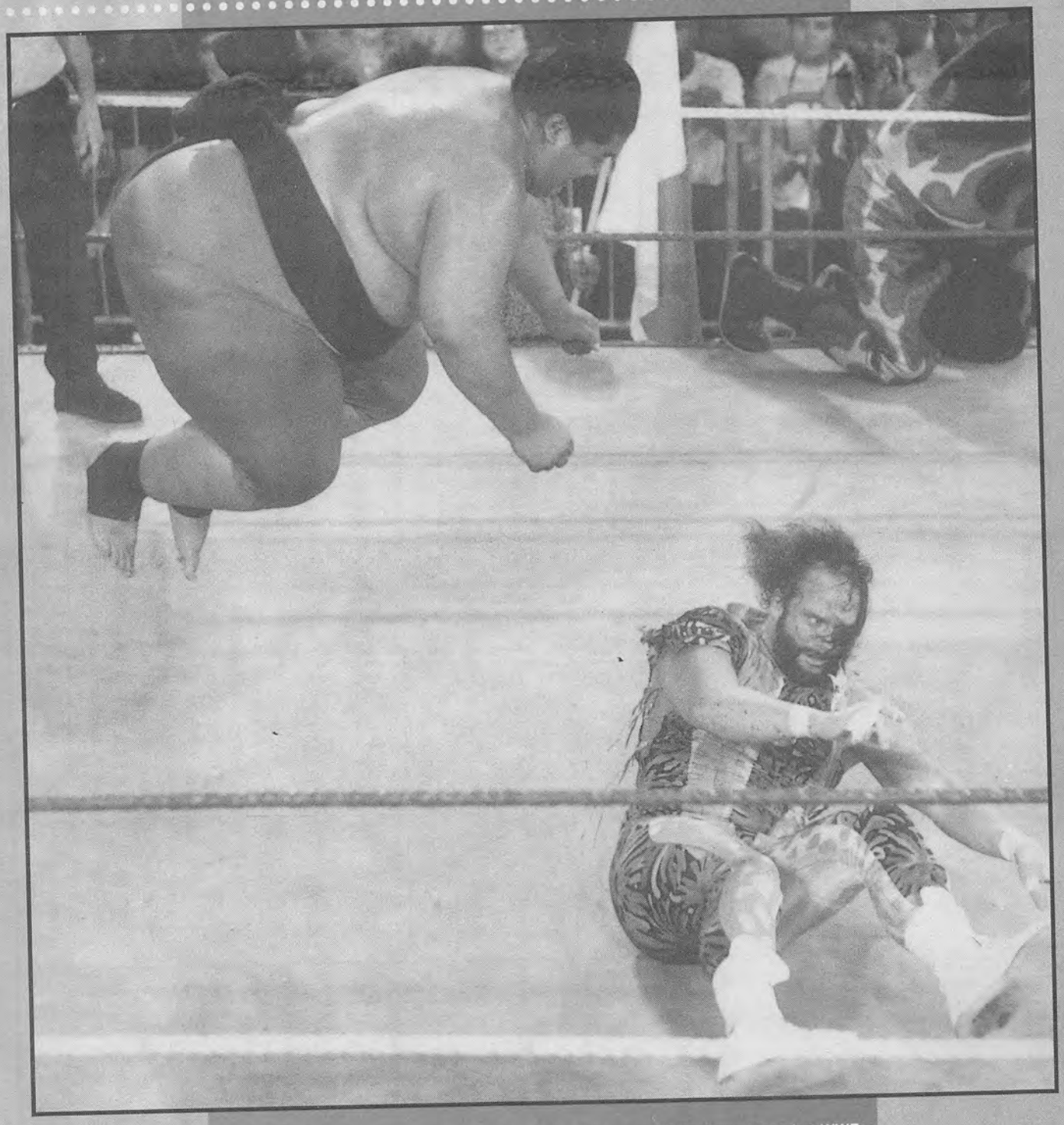
JOHANNESBURG, SOUTH AFRICA

A number of top wrestlers are negotiating for a tour of South Africa. Kamala, Kevin Von Erich, and The Warrior (formerly Ultimate Warrior) have all shown interest. "I may have been out of action for a while, but I bet a lot of fans in that area of the world remember me," said Warrior. "I'm looking forward to some great matches." No word on whether any of Kamala's old friends from Uganda would be attending any cards.

TOKYO, JAPAN

A high-flyer of yesterday met a high-flyer of today on a WAR card when Mil Mascaras recently took on the exciting Jushin Liger. Mascaras teamed with Ultimo Dragon to battle Liger and El Samurai. For most fans this was considered a dream match, since both Mascaras and Liger are incredibly popular. Sources in the Orient say Liger was thrilled to meet Mascaras in the ring.

HOT SHOT



"Good thing I ate that extra pound of rice before the match!" That must be what WWF World champion Yokozuna is thinking as he flies through the air with the (not so?) greatest of ease toward "Macho Man" Randy Savage. At about this point, he probably realizes that Savage is rolling out of the way and won't be on the receiving end of the behemoth Samoan's splash. Fortunately for Yokozuna, he's got an extra pound or two around his middle that helped to cushion the blow; he recovered enough to continue the match. Maybe next time he'll leave the aerial moves to the lighter athletes.

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